JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

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A REPRINT of the Scheme for the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church in Wales, to which frequent reference was made in the House of Commons in the debate on February 22nd, IS NOW READY.

H. GRANVILLE DICKSON,
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DRAWING ROOM MEETING on TUESDAY, JUNE 21st, at 4.30 p.m., by permission of Lady FREDERICK CAVENDISH, at 21, CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

ANNUAL MEETING on THURSDAY, JUNE 23rd, at 3.30 p.m., at the CHURCH HOUSE, the Lord Bishop of WAKEFIELD in the Chair.

ANNUAL SERMON on SUNDAY, JUNE 26th, at 3.30 p.m., at ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, ONSLOW SQUARE. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of LONDON.

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The LORD SANDHURST will PRESIDE at the

ANNUAL DINNER

to be held on

THURSDAY, 30th June, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole.

DONATIONS and SUBSCRIPTIONS will be THANKFULLY RECEIVED at the Hospital by the Secretary,

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Election at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C., on Friday, 10th June, 1892.

ROBERT FIELD, Esq., J.P., V.P., Treasurer, in the Chair.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

Girls.

	Votes.		Votes.
1. Philpott, Dorothy C.	.. 906	9. White, Hilda M.	.. 594
2. Jackson, Millicent L.	.. 896	10. Harvey, M. S.	.. 579
3. Mannsty, Adelaide F.	.. 826	11. Turner, Edith M.	.. 570
4. Bury, Emma V.	.. 656	12. Hughes, Hilda B.	.. 545
5. Benton, Olive M.	.. 654	13. Prescott, Amy M.	.. 545
6. Tarupp, Adeline M.	.. 629	14. Insull, Dora	.. 540
7. Mackay, Jessie	.. 627	15. Grant, Winifred L. M.	511
8. Mitchell, Dorothy C.	.. 604		

Boys.

	Votes.		Votes.
1. Mudd, Wm. A.	... 712	9. Barratt, Hugh T.	... 553
2. Shaw, Guy L.	... 691	10. Frith, Leo. T.	... 519
3. Greaves, Cyril T.	... 614	11. Metcalf, Emil J.	... 487
4. Winder, John S. W.	... 609	12. Harris, Edwd. J.	... 485
5. Willcox, Chas. C.	... 553	13. Morrant, George F.	... 474
6. Michelmore, Sydney B.	548	14. Woodward, Percy L.	... 469
7. Wright, Lionel E.	... 545	15. Jopling, Joseph	... 468
8. Malpas, Chas. W.	... 544		

Thanks were voted to the Chairman and Scrutineers.

R. H. EVANS, Secretary.

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WOOD, 34, Churton-street, Pimlico.

W.

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ROSS, 45, Paddington-street.
SCRIPPS, 13, South Molton-street.
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SHAW, 403, Oxford-street.
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TOLER, 54, Praed-street, Paddington.
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WILLIAMS, 25, Sale-street, Paddington.
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HART, 35, Great Queen-street.
HEBARD, 49, Endell-street, Long-acre
JONES, 9, Little Queen-street.
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LYCEUM THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8, RICHELIEU. Mr. Henry Irving Messrs. William Terriss, Frank K. Cooper, Tyars, Bond, Arthur Stirling, Haviland, and Mr. Gilbert Farquhar; Misses Bessie Hatton, Coleridge, and Jessie Millward.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.45, PERIL. Mr. Tree, Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Allan, Miss Claire Ivanova, Miss Lizzie Webster, and Miss Rose Leclercq. Preceded, at 8.10, by THE WAIF. Mrs. Tree and Miss Maud Milton.

GAIETY THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.30, CINDER-ELLEN UP TOO LATE. Miss K. James and Mr. Fred Leslie. At 7.40, QUEER STREET

CRITERION THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.45, THE FRINGE OF SOCIETY. Mr. Charles Wyndham, Mr. F. Athelay, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Carlotta Addison and Mrs. Langtry. Preceded, at 8.15, by TWO YOUNG WIVES.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8, SOPHIA. Messrs. Thomas Thorne, Fred Thorne, Blythe, Yorke, Dodsworth, and Charles Warner; Mesdames Sophie Larkin, Kate Phillips, Helen Forsyth, Helen Vane, Trench, and Maude Millett.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.45, WALKER, LONDON. Mr. J. L. Toole and Miss Mary Brough. At 7.45, DAISY'S ESCAPE. Mr. J. Billington and Miss Poole.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.15, MIDSUMMER DAY; at 9, LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN. Mr. George Alexander and Mr. Nutcombe Gould; Miss Fanny Coleman and Miss Marion Terry

SAVOY THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.50, THE VICAR OF BRAY. Mr. Barrington and Miss E. Brandram. At 8, CAPTAIN BILLY.

COURT THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.30, THE NEW SUB. At 9.15, ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN. At 10, A PANTOMIME REHEARSAL. Messrs. Thomas, Elliot, Branscombe, Bertram, Weedon Grossmith, &c. Misses G. Kingston, Terriss and D. Moore, &c.

LYRIC THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.30, THE MOUNTEBANKS. Misses Geraldine Ulmar, Alma Janoure, Eva Moore, J. Moore, and Lucille Saunders; Messrs. Lionel Brough, Frank Wyatt, J. Robertson, F. Cook, A. Playfair, C. Gilbert, Porteous, and Harry Monkhouse. At 7.40, THE SENTRY.

COMEDY THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.30, THE GREY MARE. Followed by THE POST AND THE PUPPETS. Messrs. C. H. Hawtrey, C. Brookfield, Eric Lewis, W. Wyes, E. Cosham, J. Nelson; Misses Vane Featherston, Cynthia Brooke, L. Ruggles, and Lottie Venne.

ROYALTY THEATRE.

This Evening, at 9, MOSES AND SON. Mr. Edward Righton, Miss Annie Irish. Preceded, at 8, by a DRAWING-ROOM CONCERT. Miss Edna Gray, Miss Emily Himing, Mr. Philip Newbury.

STRAND THEATRE.

This Evening, at 8.50, NIOBE (ALL SMILES). Messrs. Harry Paulton, Forbes Dawson, Herbert Ross, George Hawtrey, A. C. Mackenzie; Misses Beatrice Lamb, Isobel Ellinger, Venie Bennett, Eleanor May, G. Esmond, L. Goldsmith, and C. Berbini. At 8, NO CREDIT. Misses Esmond, Bennett; Mr. Hawtrey, &c.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLEMENTS.

Cabinet Photographs have already appeared in the JOHN BULL of—

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JUNE 18.

MR. BALFOUR'S PROGRAMME.

Mr. BALFOUR'S manifesto to the Conservative party, contained in the speech which he delivered at the dinner of the National Union on Wednesday last, is, to speak out plainly what is everywhere said in private, a huge blunder. The discontent that exists in the rank and file of the Conservative party in consequence of the Radical legislation of the last six years is notorious. The prevailing dissatisfaction has been increased by a Ministerial programme that is either Radical or meaningless. It is true that Mr. BALFOUR has confined himself to oracular utterances on most of the important questions that he touches upon, but the vagueness that he indulges in is singularly eloquent. No one can speak out with greater clearness than Mr. BALFOUR, and when he imitates the ambiguous obscurity of Mr. GLADSTONE'S phrases it is simply because he recognises the inadvisability of bluntly blurting out to the Conservative party the whole truth as to the policy which they are expected to support at the polls. Mr. BALFOUR'S programme is a programme of veiled Radicalism, and it is ridiculous to expect that it will elicit any sort of enthusiasm from men who are Conservatives by principle and conviction.

On the questions that immediately concern London, that Mr. GLADSTONE recently dealt with, Mr. BALFOUR is deliberately obscure. He carefully refrains, in most cases, from definitely stating that he is prepared to oppose Mr. GLADSTONE'S proposals. Thus, with respect to registration, Mr. BALFOUR said that he did not know that any Tory maintained that the registration laws did not require reform. This is true just as it is true that everyone allows that most laws are susceptible of improvement. But certainly Tories do not generally admit that the registration laws require reform in the Radical sense, in the sense of breaking down the barriers that at present keep off Manhood Suffrage. The declaration that might have been expected from Mr. BALFOUR that he would oppose the abandonment of the existing qualifications of residence for voters was significantly absent. Again, in dealing with the question of One Man, One Vote, Mr. BALFOUR raised no objections to a policy which leads logically to universal suffrage, he simply said that he would only accept it if accompanied by a fresh redistribution of seats. As far as can be gathered from his indefinite declarations, he would have no objections to Manhood Suffrage and Equal Electoral Districts. It is apparently only out of regard for the prejudices of his supporters that he exercises a discreet reticence as to his own views on the subject. On the question of the powers of the London County Council, again Mr. BALFOUR is clearly out of sympathy with the bulk of his London supporters. He offers no opinion with regard to surrendering the control of the police, and only remarks that even Mr. GLADSTONE recognises that there are difficulties to be dealt with, but he states that he is personally of opinion that the Municipality of London should have the powers which other municipalities possess with regard to gas, water, tramways, &c. If he really thinks that a shifting body, elected from political motives, is fit to be entrusted with the management of a huge business such as he suggests—the business of supplying gas, water, and locomotion for a population of 5,000,000—he will find few outside the ranks of Radical politicians to agree with him. Even the Corporation of the City will not find much comfort from Mr. BALFOUR'S remarks. He thinks that the destruction of an ancient institution and the plundering of a wealthy corporation are congenial occupations for the Separatist party, but he does not think that working men would be one penny the better for it. After all, there are other considerations than whether working men would be benefited or not by schemes of confiscation. On the taxation of ground rents no clear note of opposition comes from Mr. BALFOUR; he only says that he would rejoice to see any alteration in the law which would make the incidence of taxation perfectly clear, and bring into the general net of local taxation every species of property that benefits by local expenditure. As to the division of rates between owner and occupier, Mr. BALFOUR is entirely in favour of it, and so it seems are his colleagues, the only condition being that existing contracts shall not be interfered with.

Passing from his comments on Radical proposals, which were significant, not so much from what was said as from what was left unsaid, Mr. BALFOUR proceeded to state what the new Ministerial programme is to be. In the first place, the Irish Local Government Bill, which Conservatives generally regard as a measure for making Home Rule inevitable, is to be persevered with if the opportunity offers. The local consideration of private Bills, a form of Home Rule to which no one will object, is to be conceded to Scotland and Ireland. The question of Employers' Liability is to be dealt with in accordance with the views of the Trade Unions. District councils are to be established throughout the country. Besides this a vague scheme for administering the Poor Law on philanthropic principles is shadowed forth. Mr. BALFOUR is apparently anxious to forestall the policy of the days when paupers are accorded votes.

There is clearly nothing in Mr. BALFOUR'S profession of opinions and programme of legislation that will attract any enthusiasm on the Conservative side. There is nothing in Mr. BALFOUR'S statement of views which is not perfectly consistent with six more years of Radical progress. It is not surprising that many Conservatives are of opinion that Conservative interests would be best consulted by the return to power of a Radical Ministry which promises but does not perform. The philosophic attitude of suspended judgment which Mr. BALFOUR takes up will certainly not win votes. The absence of satisfactory declarations on a test question like that of the taxation of ground rents is naturally unfavourably viewed. The prospect of increasing the powers of the London County Council and making it a vast trading corporation will certainly not be pleasantly regarded by the London ratepayers, who will have to bear the burden of the expenditure. The Ministry have apparently not learned the lesson that it is to the "beneficent" legislation of which they boast that they owe their unquestionable unpopularity amongst their own supporters. Possibly the General Election may enlighten them as to the advantages of appealing to the Conservative party with a history of Radical legislation and a programme of Radical tendencies.

CATHOLICS AND ROYALISTS IN FRANCE.

The remnant of the Royalist party in France has put forward its manifesto as to the POPE'S injunctions to French Roman Catholics to accept the Republic. Their attitude is much that which has been taken by other parties, who, while acknowledging the POPE'S authority in matters of faith, have thought themselves at liberty to select their own course in secular politics. It has less often been in favour with the Royalists of Catholic countries because it is seldom that the Papal authority has condemned or repudiated their political action. They profess to be a Catholic party in devotion to the interests of religion and respect for the spiritual authority of Rome. But in the question of form of Government they claim the liberty which in most constitutional countries has been conceded, at least to lay members of the Church, of supporting what they think best for their country. It will be remembered that in the case of Ireland, while condemning the action of the Land Leaguers, the Vatican treated the strictly political question of Home Rule as one on which the Church did not pronounce. The Duc de BISAUCA and his colleagues may well consider that they are entitled to as much liberty of judgment as to the question of Monarchy in France. It would have been perfectly intelligible that all Catholics, and especially the clergy, should have been warned against attacking the Republic in the name of religion, and representing the cause of the Church as altogether identified with that of any former political system. It would have been natural enough that the "faithful" should have been advised to take no part in conspiracies or insurrections against the established government recognised by the POPE. But under present circumstances it is not by any forcible revolution that the opponents of the Republic would hope to bring about a change. To require them in their capacity of citizens, apart from any claim to speak for the Church, to forego all opposition at the poll or in the Chamber to the Republican idea, is going further in control over political action than the spiritual authority has hitherto claimed to do. Infallibility has only been claimed as to "Faith and Morals," and it is a considerable stretch of the latter term to make it include not only legal obedience to a definite government, but acceptance of a particular political principle. The Papal policy is, no doubt, to frame a Conservative Catholic party detached from any dynastic sympathies, and, therefore, capable of winning adherents among those who are averse from unsettling again the system of government which has lasted for what in France may be called so long a period. That those who are zealous Republicans by preference, who would wish to establish a Republic if it were not in possession, who would resist a Restoration to the last, even if the rest of their countrymen were disposed towards it, are also bitter enemies of the Church, is probably admitted by the advocates as well as the opponents of the new departure. But there probably are a large intermediate class, who would be Monarchists under a Monarchy if firmly established; who, if then grown up, viewed the foundation of the Republic with dislike, but are now Republicans in the sense of acquiescing in what exists, and putting up with the errors of those in power, rather than take part in opposition which may substitute for it some order of things in whose stability and success they have no confidence. It is, perhaps, held at Rome that the legitimate nobility and the section of the *bourgeoisie* who were especially Orleanist, are no longer of real weight in the country, and that the strength of the Church will be in gaining the support of the great body who have no vehement preference for any form of government in the abstract. It is worth notice that a policy founded on these ideas is exactly the opposite to that of the Roman Curia in Italy. In Italy the word is still "neither to elect nor be elected." It is probable that this gives far greater weight than they naturally possess to the antagonists of the Church in that country, those who would form a Conservative or even "Clerical" party being thus kept out of active politics altogether, while those who accept the Italian Monarchy are thrown more or less into alliance with the opponents of the clergy on every legislative question. The weak point of the contrary course in France is that the Republicans at once understand and look with suspicion upon its objects. They have

been inclined to meet the POPE'S advances with signs of hostility that amused and pleased the most uncompromising of the anti-Republican Conservatives.

They have no wish to see Republican institutions *exploitées*, in French phrase, by the supporters of the clergy. The present majority would oppose the "Clerical" party, which called itself Republican, with as much zeal as it would oppose the Monarchists. It is difficult to estimate the strength of this feeling all through France. In the large towns it is probably dominant. The appeals of leading politicians on the Republican side to anti-clerical feeling serve to show that it is an influence on which it is worth while to rely, even at the risk of giving offence elsewhere. The conciliatory tone of moderate men like M. JULES SIMON has seldom been heard of late years among those who direct legislation. By rallying to the Republic, those who follow the POPE'S counsel may look to winning back many of the small towns or rural districts which are no longer monarchical, but which the anti-religious feeling rather repels than otherwise. But it must be remembered that great hopes of a similar fusion of the Republic with Catholicism were entertained by many eminent men in 1848. The attempted combination did not last long.

On the other hand, the Royalist party must expect for the present to be seriously enfeebled. It has indeed been said that it may be relieved from unpopularity in some quarters by being disconnected from ecclesiastical pretensions. This might be if it were at present in possession of any considerable strength of its own from other sources. But there can be no doubt that all popular opposition to the Republicans has been of late years mainly founded on religious sympathies. Even in Brittany it may be doubtful what the influence of the château will be without the support or the countenance of the curé. It will, no doubt, be often notorious that the ecclesiastics are accepting the new attitude against their will. The Royalists may claim that they are at heart with them, and not with their opponents. But a struggle between a Monarchist and a member of the new Right, which should be alike Catholic and Republican, will probably break up the Conservatives and give a victory to friends of the Radical Left, who have hitherto enjoyed ascendency. It remains to be seen, when a General Election occurs again, whether the Church will have gained by dissociating itself from the Monarchists, who have hitherto been its chief supporters, or if the Church and the Monarchists alike will suffer by a division profitable only to the enemies of both.

Reviews.

LANCASTER AND YORK.*

Sir James Ramsay has undertaken a somewhat gigantic task in his "attempt to supply a "verified connected narrative of the first 1,500 "years of the History of England." What date he takes as the starting point of that narrative he has not informed us, but as he does inform us that the last portion of his work is here published first we must assume that he commences a little before the Christian era, thus carrying back English history a good deal further than most of his fellow labourers in the same field, and we shall look forward with some curiosity to the method of treatment which he will adopt for the earlier centuries. Of this we are not at present able to judge, because "reasons that need not be "specified" have induced him to begin at the end, and to select as the first instalment of his work for publication that which would have come last in order of time. He has not told us what these reasons are, but probably they are good and sufficient, so we need not dwell on this apparent anomaly, or find fault with a method of procedure which has, at all events, the advantage of enabling the writer to deal in the two volumes now before us with a distinct period of English history, and one which has not perhaps been so adequately treated as some of those which precede it.

The title selected for the present instalment of this gigantic work, which is, as Sir James Ramsay tells us, to be followed up without delay by the earlier volumes—commencing, we may presume, with Cæsar's invasion of Britain—is *Lancaster and York*. In it he has told once more in a narrative which derives considerable value from being based on "a personal examination of "the original authorities," the story of a century of English history given up almost entirely to a dynastic struggle. "A plague on both your "houses" might well have been the exclamation of the ordinary Englishman who lived through the years from 1399 to 1485, with which the author has here dealt, but the story has such an unity in itself, and is so full of stirring incident, that we cannot wonder at the author's selection of it as the first instalment of his *magnum opus*, especially when we bear in mind that he has not been so completely forestalled by other historical students in dealing with it, as he has been in some of the other portions of the fifteen centuries with which he is ultimately to deal. He would, for example, have been certainly a bold man if he had challenged comparison with the late Professor Freeman on his own ground, by commencing his book with an attempt to tell over again the story of the Norman Conquest; and this, we may not unfairly assume, is one reason for his adoption of the cart-before-the-horse method of treatment, which begins the narrative of fifteen centuries of English history with a record of the fifteenth.

We must confess that we approached the consideration of these two bulky volumes—which are, by the way, beautifully printed and supplied with capital maps, doing great credit in this respect to the Clarendon Press—with a certain amount of misgiving when we found the writer in his introduction referring to Dr. Bright's history as one of "a popular and "attractive character," with which his graver work was not intended to vie in that respect. From our own painful experience of that dullest of all dull histories, we should have been inclined to regard the description of it thus given as coming under the head of that derangement of epitaphs with which Mrs. Malaprop has familiarised us, and we own that the prospect of reading through two bulky volumes, professedly written in a style less popular and less attractive than Dr. Bright's, filled us with dismay. But Sir James Ramsay has done himself injustice in this respect, and, though we can by no means pronounce *Lancaster and York* to be light reading, there is so very much of interest and of value in it that it compares very favourably with the exceedingly dry bones of Dr. Bright's work, which have not the same excuse for their dryness, and do not represent the same amount of original research, or supply what it has been the avowed object of Sir James Ramsay to supply, "a foundation upon which after comers and specialists can build." We should have been inclined ourselves somewhat to vary the metaphor, and to call these volumes rather a quarry, to which after comers and specialists can resort for materials. Regarded from this point of view, they must be pronounced to be of very great interest and importance; and, though we doubt if they will prove very attractive to the general reader, who reads merely for the sake of amusement, the student will find them invaluable as a compendium of the original authorities on which he must rely when he attempts to examine history for himself, rather than to accept it cut and dried at the hands of the historian.

Sir James Ramsay has the great advantage of not having any special theory to maintain, and therefore, of not being compelled to manipulate his facts to suit his special theory, and, though, having regard to the vast field which he has undertaken to cover, he can only offer to his readers a summary of the original authorities upon which he relies, he has certainly achieved the object which he modestly puts forward as that only at which he has aimed, namely, the suggestion to the reader how much more there is to say, and how much more to find out from the original authorities which he has summarised. The verification of dates is an important part of the task which he has set before him, and he has also devoted special attention to financial questions. We are all of us inclined to forget how very important an element in history is supplied by financial questions, and are apt to think that money, in the earlier stages of our history, did not play so prominent a part as it has done in quite modern times. Perhaps the attentive study which the author has devoted to the particulars of the Royal revenue, ordinary and extraordinary, of each reign, and to the expenditure of that revenue, supplies the most valuable portion of his book, but one the value of which will only be duly appreciated by a specialist who is able to follow out his calculations, and to check his conclusions in a way which we ourselves cannot profess to do. For our own part, we feel more interest in his contribution to the military history of the fifteenth century, and the pains which he has taken to verify the incidents of the various battles, the marches of the different armies and their numerical strength. This latter branch of his subject is one to which Sir James Ramsay has devoted special attention, and it is certainly remarkable to find how small were the English expeditionary forces and how exaggerated are the estimates of numbers in which even the best of chroniclers indulge. The chapter which he devotes to the Agincourt campaign is, perhaps, the best specimen of his powers, and to it we would refer any reader who desired—as so many readers of the present day unfortunately do desire—to form an opinion of the merits of the book by simply dipping into it. Though the story is a familiar one, it is told once again with a spirit and an energy which must stir the blood of every Englishman; while the great disparity of the forces engaged, and the completeness of the triumph of that which was numerically the weaker, should make us all the more feel that it is no unworthy boast which our great dramatist puts into the mouth of our great King:—

> That Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by
> But we in it shall be remembered.

At the same time, the author does not hesitate to point out, at a later stage of his narrative, that the revolution which drove Henry VI. from his throne may be summarised as "the Nemesis "of Agincourt," and that the work of Henry IV. was undone primarily through the ambitious policy of his brilliant son, whose feeble son, in his turn, was the blameless sufferer from the results of that policy. There is, undoubtedly, much to be said for this view, but against it we must set the deliberate opinion expressed by a shrewd chronicler, writing shortly after, that "no man could rule the English for any length "of time successfully without a foreign war." If Henry V. had been alloved a longer life and time to consolidate his conquests, the result might have been far different. In that case also, no less than in the case suggested by Sir James Ramsay of his being content to follow the pacific policy of his father, his House might, in direct descent from him, have been ruling England at the present day. But this was not to be, and by an unfortunate accident—one, however, which has recurred so often in our history that it can hardly be called an accident—the vigorous and warlike father was succeeded by a weak and unwarlike son. Moreover, Henry VI. suffered also from the evil effects of a long minority, and of a struggle during that minority for supremacy among his relations. This part of the historian's task is most carefully worked out, and his estimate of the contending parties does not always agree with that entertained at the time. The good Duke Humphrey, for example, appears in a very different aspect from that in which he is regarded by popular tradition, though it must be put to his credit that he resisted the fatal surrender of English interests which followed after the death of the Duke of Bedford, for whom the historian shows a not undeserved partiality, citing, in the quaint spelling of the original record, his stirring appeal to his countrymen before finally quitting England for his last campaign in France.

As might not unnaturally have been expected from one whose own estates in Bamff have come to him in a direct line of lineal descent without a break from father to son from the days of Malcolm Canmore, the author has devoted special attention to the points of contact between England and Scotland during the period of which he treats. He even ventures to affirm, and not without good ground, that "more of the solid facts of Scottish history "will be found in these pages than in some "Scottish histories of recent date." But it must be confessed that what he has to tell does not much redound to his country's credit, and while English statesmen do not always appear in the most favourable light in his pages, the standard of political honesty seems to have been higher on the south than on the north of the Tweed. But we are here treading on dangerous ground, and will not run the risk of stirring up the *perfervidum ingenium* by pursuing the subject further.

The volumes now under notice derive, as our readers will have gathered from what we have already said, their main value from being based on the author's personal examination of the original authorities, and where he has accepted the conclusions of a prior

* *Lancaster and York, a Century of English History.* By Sir James H. Ramsay, of Bamff. In Two Vols.—Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1892.

writer he has endeavoured, as far as possible, to give them in that prior writer's own words. He has also, in many cases, quoted the *ipsissima verba* of the original authorities, which lends much piquancy and quaintness to the narrative, relieving what might otherwise have degenerated into a mere Dryasdust chronicle, suited only for those whose appetite for facts is as insatiable as that of the late Mr. Gradgrind. Even as it is, there is some probability that the general reader will be more struck with the indefatigable industry and the painstaking research, of which each page gives evidence, than with the way in which the result of that industry or research is presented when regarded from a literary point of view. Sir James Ramsay has, as he says, devoted some twenty-one years of incessant labour to his self-imposed task, and as a monument of patient labour and of that "verification of references" on which Dr. Routh laid so much stress in his advice to Dr. Goulburn, his book must take a very high place, reminding us in this respect far more of the German than of the English historical student. For we in this country are not so familiar with the ungrudging sacrifice of time and labour to the collection of facts as our Teutonic brethren.

It will be obvious that these special merits cannot be well illustrated by quotation, and that it is by the book as a whole rather than by any extracts from it that the remarkable measure of success to which the author has attained must be judged. Nor is it possible to give any idea of the variety of quaint information scattered throughout the thousand and odd pages of which it consists. Duly to appreciate their merits it is necessary to study these pages carefully, and we feel that we are doing the author but scant justice in selecting almost at random a passage illustrative of his method of treatment. But at the same time we feel bound, in dealing with a work of such importance, to present to our readers some specimen of that method, and perhaps the following account of the parliamentary session 1439-40 will serve our purpose as well as any other:—

On the 12th November Parliament met at Westminster. On the 21st December the Session was adjourned to the 14th January, 1440, to meet at Reading. This town was perhaps selected from sanitary considerations, epidemics being prevalent in the metropolis.

The Chancellor in his speech again ventured to take credit for pacific intentions; and the Commons made a slight increase in their grants. They gave a Subsidy and a half for the two years 1440 and 1441, instead of one Subsidy as of late years; they renewed the wool duties for three years, from the 11th November, 1440; and Tonnage and Poundage for the like period from the 1st April at existing rates. They also granted a shabby poll-tax on foreigners for three years: all householders "not English borne" were required to pay 1s. 4d. a year, "non-householders" 6d. Natives of Wales, persons of Religion, and children under twelve years of age alone were exempted.

If no direct complaints of the continuance of the war appear on the Rolls, complaints of the hardships occasioned by the war are not wanting. The judges threatened to resign in a body, some of them having received neither salary nor robes for two years; and loud complaints were made of the sums left due and owing by the Royal Purveyors.

This matter served to bring out the scrupulous feelings of the young King. A charge on the available revenues of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster having been suggested for the benefit of the Royal creditors, a "schedule" was tendered to the Commons in Henry's name asking that the whole matter should be specially referred to the Council; "as the Kynge ne wolde in any wyse that the people of his londe shulde be illuded as towards the hope that he had putte hem in." To this request the Commons gave a ready assent.

Since the departure of the Earl of Warwick for France the King had been treated as his own master, as already mentioned, doubtful questions being referred to him for decision. In general the answer was "content if my Lords are content;" but the Ministers found that if the King was easily led by them he was easily led by others also, and they had to remonstrate against a dangerous disposition to grant anything that he was asked. On one occasion the King was told that he had lightly sacrificed 2,000 marks.

A good deal of miscellaneous business was transacted in the Session. A sort of Mutiny Act was passed placing the relations of soldiers to their captains on a legal footing. Weights and Measures were dealt with, and Commissioners of Sewers reappointed for ten years. The King agreed to relieve cheese and butter from the Staple regulations, but refused to extend the same privilege to hides, rabbit skins, or tallow; nor would he allow wheat to be shipped from one part of England to another "without speciall license," though famine was raging. This permission was probably withheld for fear the corn might be exported abroad.

Again, a weak disposition was shown to listen to the interested suggestions of the native merchants whose thirst for Protection was insatiable. The old regulations for "hosting" foreign merchants were revived. They were forbidden to deal with each other while in England; they were required to report all their transactions to the "host" under whose roof they lived; and they were required to invest the produce of all their sales in native merchandise.

For the benefit of the privateering interest it was enacted that no safe-conduct should be valid unless both the name of the ship and that of the master were specified. Henry, however, refused to exclude the Italians from participation in the carrying trade, a further boon requested on behalf of the merchant navy.

The year 1439 was the second of two years of dearth, severely felt, especially in the southern counties. The failure of crops began in the autumn of 1437, from wet weather. In 1438 wheat rose from 4s. and 6s. the quarter to 8s. and 10s. the quarter, and in places to 13s. and 16s. the quarter. 1439 was "a year of undoubted famine, the most serious since the great famine of 1315—1316," the cause again being excessive rain and absence of sunshine. Wheat was commonly at 12s. and 14s. the quarter, rising in places to 16s. and 20s. the quarter. "Also this yere was so grete derthe of corn that men were fayn to ete rye bred and barly, the whiche nevere ett non before; and rather thanne fayle, bred mad of benes, peses, fecches, and wel were hym that might have ynowe thereof."

Historically the most striking incident of the year 1439 was the proclamation at St. Paul's Cross on the 28th August of the Union of the Greek and Latin Churches; or, as the chronicler puts it, that the Emperor and clergy "of Gryke" had "obeyed hym unto the Chyrche of Rome of certayne artyculys of the faythe." This was the outcome of the Papal Councils of Ferrara and Florence, a great diplomatic triumph for Eugenius IV., and a corresponding blow to the rival Council of Bâle. Probably it was one of the few questions of the time in which Henry VI. felt a personal interest.

The author in the main contents himself, as our readers will probably have gathered from our observations, with the collection of facts, and he comparatively rarely commits himself to the expression of his own opinion. But when he does so, there is, as a rule, so much good sense and sound judgment shown in his criticism that we cannot but regret his having chosen to act as a hewer of wood and drawer of water for the use of future historians, in the more modern sense of the term, rather than himself to utilise his materials for the purpose of showing his own capacity to take upon himself the office of a historian. As a specimen of his success in the latter capacity as opposed to that of the mere chronicler, we may quote in conclusion the following summing up of the result of the long struggle between York and Lancaster when that result was finally attained in the memorable fight on Bosworth field, of which a graphic description is given, one of the many admirable battle-pieces for which Sir James Ramsay in his preface apologises as having been introduced by him at the risk of being stigmatised as a "drum "and trumpet" historian:—

The action from first to last is said to have lasted little more than two hours; accordingly Henry was able to enter Leicester in triumph that same night: Richard's body, "naked as he was borne," was brought in "overthwarte" a horse's back; to make the indignity if possible more complete, his own Pursuivant-at-Arms, "*Blaunche Senglier*," was made to ride the horse.

After two days' exposure in "the New Warke" for public identification the remains were committed to decent burial at the Grey Friars, Leicester.

Thus the Red Rose of Henry VII had avenged the White Roses of Edward IV and his sons. Ultimate victory had fallen to the House of Lancaster; and the long war of succession was at an end. For the accession of Henry VII was essentially a Lancastrian triumph, and the war from first to last had been primarily a war of succession, and to the chief actors in it nothing else.

To some extent the result must be attributed to the seeming accident of Richard's usurpation. Had he been content to play the loyal part of a Regent Bedford or a Cardinal Beaufort the house of Tudor need never have been heard of in history. But, again, Richard's conduct cannot be dissociated from the school in which he was brought up; and from nine years of age he had been in the hands of his brother Edward. It must be admitted that the Lancastrian dynasty shewed great vitality. It was hard to upset in the first instance: it rose again mysteriously in 1470; and in 1485 it finally carried the day when only two years before it seemed extinct. These facts proved that its roots went deep into the soil. The accepted explanation is that the one party was constitutional and Parliamentary; the other Legitimist and arbitrary. These facts in themselves cannot be denied. But the constitutional question did not present itself to the mind of the Fifteenth Century as definitely as it does to our mind of the Nineteenth. "Sad and politique rule," as then understood, made large allowance for acts of executive authority; and the Lancastrian Governments had indulged at times in very strong acts; but they were not habitually sanguinary; while the personal lives and characters of their Kings had been in harmony with English feeling. Yorkist rule was sanguinary from the beginning, and in the person of Richard III. it became utterly abhorrent.

To bring our point of view into harmony with that of the fifteenth century we ought perhaps to say that the House of York fell as much from the repugnance excited by the lives and conduct of its sons as for any definite offences against the nation.

Constitutionally, the Benevolences of Edward and Richard were their worst acts. We cannot gauge the exact amount of hostility excited by these proceedings: but the reader must have followed our narrative to little purpose if he has failed to realise the fact that the control of taxation was the one point on which Parliament was really tenacious; the one point on which it insisted on making good its constitutional pretensions.

Physically Richard III. was as much inferior to his brothers as intellectually he was their superior. His stature was clearly short: his left arm was partly deformed, and his right shoulder higher than the left; hence the epithet of Crouchback. His forehead was his fine feature, broad and intelligent. His portrait is that of a strong, business-like, joyless nature: the lean cheeks, half-closed grey eyes, and thin set lips suggest a calculating, distrustful temperament of rigid purpose. We are told that when in thought he would bite his nether lip; and that he had a great habit of playing with the handle of his dagger. In the picture we see him with his left hand nervously twisting a ring on the little finger of his right hand. Of his general ability there can be no doubt: had he been called to the throne by a legitimate title he might have ruled with great distinction. The consciousness of this fitness may have given the spur to his ambition. He had a sense of national honour, as shown by his opposition to the treaty of Picquigny. The legislation of his one Parliament showed a purpose of grappling with admitted evils: he also threatened to deal with the chaos of the Exchequer; a reform that would have arrayed against him a host of vested interests. His foundation at Middleham, and his benefactions to Queen's College, Cambridge, have been already noticed. Besides these we must credit him with the foundation of a chapel at Towton, and a college of priests at All Hallows, Barking, near the Tower. He also contemplated a foundation of no less than a hundred priests at York.

The College of Heralds was incorporated by him, and settled at Cold Harbour, the site of the existing college.

"Brave, cunning, resolute, clear-sighted, bound by no ties of love or gratitude, amenable to no instincts of mercy or kindness," Richard III. left no one who cared enough for him to attempt the arduous task of rehabilitating his fame. The descendants of Edward IV. might feel some tenderness for the name of their ancestor, but Yorkist and Lancastrian alike could join in execrating the memory of the treacherous Richard Crouchback.

ARTS AND LETTERS.

The bulk of the collections made by Squire and Davis in their explorations of American mounds, and described in their famous work, the *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley*, is contained in the Blackmore Museum, at Salisbury.

Oriental students will regret the retirement of Dr. Reinhold Rost from the Librarianship at the India Office, which will, it is said, shortly take place. By birth a German, Dr. Rost has been in England for over forty years, holding during the whole of that period a position in the first rank of Oriental scholars.

It is stated that Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt has read and accepted Mr. Oscar Wilde's French one-act play, *Salammbo*. It is said that it will be produced this season and acted in London.

At a sale last Saturday of pictures from several collections, the following prices were obtained:—"A Farmyard, with a butcher bargaining for sheep, &c.," by George Morland, 1794, 479gs. (M. Colnaghi); "Mrs. Fitzherbert," by Sir J. Reynolds, 1,650gs. (Jackson); "The Grand Canal, Venice," by W. Muller, 180gs. (M. Colnaghi); "A Woody Landscape," by Hobbema, 185gs. (Remey); "Portrait of a Lady," by Van der Helst, 235gs. (M. Colnaghi); "The Grand Canal, Venice, with the Dogana and the Church of Sta. Maria della Salute," by Canaletto, 600gs. (Vokins); a pair of overdoor panels, with Italian musicians and actors, by Watteau, 150gs. (Hodgkins); "Interior of a Guard-room," by G. Schalcken, 180gs. (Duveen); "The Wings of a Diptych, with portraits of Donors, attended by a Saint and a Bishop," by Van Eyck, 200gs. (Duveen); "A Diptych with the Annunciation," also by Van Eyck, 135gs. (Millus); "Penelope, daughter of Sir Wm. Bowyer, of Denham Court," by Sir Joshua

Reynolds, 410gs. (Major Blackwood); "Portrait of Old Combe, the boatman, at the age of 108," by W. Hogarth, 3½gs.; "Portrait of Chas. Jas. Fox," by Sir J. Reynolds, 20gs.

The French authorities have determined to complete the decoration of the Chambre des Députés, Paris, in which the brilliant bas-relief of M. Dalou, called "Mirabeau et le Comte de Deux Brézé" is conspicuous, by means of six statues of noteworthy personages of one category. They are to represent Danton, by M. A. Boucher; Gambetta, by M. Falguière; Ledru-Rollin, by M. Barrias; Vergniaud, by M. Dalou; Casimir Perier, by M. Marqueste; and Berryer, by M. Steiner.

The Royal Academy of Music may be congratulated upon a windfall. The house of Erard this year completes the centenary of its establishment in London, and Mr. Daniel Mayer, the present proprietor of the business, has decided to celebrate the event by instituting a three years' scholarship at the Tenterden-street Academy.

It was not until 1470 that a title-page was introduced to books, and in England not till shortly before 1490, when W. de Machline issued one to his little book on the prestilence. Caxton never used them, but Wynkyn de Worde employed them in nearly all his books.

The Empress Frederick has presented the Empress of Japan with a painting by herself.

Mr. F. Du Cane Godman, F.R.S., has presented to the British Museum a blue Persian bowl, well known to connisseurs as a unique specimen of one of the most brilliant phases of thirteenth century Persian art.

Mr. G. E. Wade is designing two bronze colossal statues of the late Sir John Macdonald, G.C.B., the Canadian Premier. One model represents him in the robes of the Order of the Bath, and the other in ordinary costume. The statue selected will be erected at Hamilton. The sculptor is also executing for the Imperial Federation League a marble bust of Sir John Macdonald, which is to be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The volumes of sermons by the late Archbishop Magee are to be followed by a volume of his speeches and selections from his correspondence. The editing has been undertaken by his son.

A memorial statue in honour of David Cox is to be erected in Birmingham, his native town.

The Trusteeship of the National Gallery, vacant by the death of Sir William Gregory, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Alfred de Rothschild.

Triumphant in New York, moderately successful in Paris, and utterly routed in London, the irrepressible Mr. James Gordon Bennett is credited with the intention of starting an Australian edition of the *New York Herald* at Melbourne.

The National Gallery has purchased from the Wedderburn collection an inedited group of six life-size heads of men and women of various ages by Hogarth.

Balfe's *Bohemian Girl* has been presented at Coburg for the first time in German, as a novelty.

Sir Charles Russell, Lord Clifford, Sir James Mathew, and several other Catholic lawyers are members of a committee which has just been formed for the purpose of erecting a memorial in St. Ethelredra's Church to the Catholic martyrs of the regions of Elizabeth and Henry VIII.

Messrs. Chappell have published the pianoforte score of Sir Arthur Sullivan's incidental music and the songs and choruses composed for Lord Tennyson's pastoral play of *The Foresters*.

Princess Louise's bust of the Queen, which her Royal Highness intends for the Chicago exhibition, is regarded as a great success.

Correspondence.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

Sir,—The twenty-seventh edition of the "Code" is out, and apparently for the twenty-seventh time it perpetrates the following monstrosity:—

"Definitions.—Elementary School.—The term elementary school means a school, or department of a school, at which elementary education is the principal part of the education there given." (P. 2).

This is just as good as defining a straight line thus:—A straight line is a line that is straight." For in the term "elementary school" the doubtful word is *elementary*. Everybody knows what school is. But we are told that in this definition the word "school" means "a school or department of a school." This we could not know by the light of nature. The definition uses technical language, and, therefore, before all things it ought to explain the sense in which it uses the word *elementary*.

Again, the word "principal" ought to have been explained. It means properly *first in respect of quality*; though it is likely that quantity is intended. When we go to the syllabus of the Code to get an idea of what is meant by "elementary education" we find among the class subjects on Schedule II. "physical and political geography of England," "interchange of productions," "the United States" (which, not stated), "tides and chief ocean currents," &c. And on Schedule IV. of specific subjects we have, to start with, algebra, Euclid, mensuration, mechanics, then Latin, French, or German, sound, light, and heat, magnetism and electricity, navigation. "Quousque tandem?" one asks; and the answer echoes "Tandem!" For sciences not yet invented will claim place in subsequent years on this marvellous syllabus for Elementary schools!

The Committee of Council on Education, then, seem to opine that "elementary education" is neither more nor less than education in the elements of every science that was, and is, and is to be. What they mean by "*the principal part of the education*" heaven only knows!

Is it honest in them to let the public, who "pay the piper," suppose that Elementary schools are for the teaching of our children only in the rudiments of the "three R's"?

Is it honest to spend public money on teaching abstruse subjects in our "public Elementary schools," when the managers of those schools are required to find the necessary apparatus, and yet are forbidden to take from any scholar a fee of more than 6d. a week?

Is it honest to talk about elementary education in "evening schools," where the scholars may be of any age between 14 and 21 years? (Code, p. 11.)

Whether designedly or not, gross injustice is being done under cover of the still ambiguous term "Elementary school." The annual grant for these schools is steadily and rapidly increasing, and there is no seeing where it will stop. It is high time, therefore, for the public to demand that the line be drawn between primary education and secondary. And it is high time that voluntaryists of all denominations should unite to protest against extra expense being thrown continually upon the managers of the voluntary schools. Such extra expense, unless promptly checked, must crush them speedily.

G. H. BUTT.

Edlington Vicarage, Horncastle, June 10.

CLERICAL INCOMES.

Sir,—It is to be hoped that the cheerful optimism of "No Private Means" as to the result of an appeal to labourers ("ready to endow us") for the very necessary additions to English clerical incomes will be justified when the appeal is made.

Meanwhile less hopeful and more business-like people will ask for some proof of willingness on the part of the people generally to subscribe for Church purposes.

Experience unfortunately has show that no branch of the Anglican Church has been able, when thrown upon the voluntary system, to gain much pecuniary aid from the mass of its nominal members.

It sounds very well in speeches at synods, to advise that "properly organised system of collecting from the high and low" which your correspondent urges. It is no new suggestion, and the fact that it has been so constantly put forward as the great *desideratum* of Church finance, but that as yet we cannot point to a single instance of the successful working of this supposed simple remedy for empty coffers, gives a presumption that there is some flaw in the theory.

Even if artisans and labourers subscribed their pence regularly, we must bear in mind that, as Dr. Salmon, with his usual terse and dry wisdom, said not long ago in the Irish Synod, "it takes 240 pence to make one pound." Are there many parishes in England where there live 400 heads of families of the labouring class willing to subscribe 5s. a year to the Church? But four hundred crowds are, after all, only one hundred pounds.

A fairly long and somewhat varied experience of the working of the voluntary system, in one the colonies and in Ireland, has driven me to the following conclusions:—

1. Small farmers, artisans, and labourers will not, as a rule, subscribe towards the payment of a clergyman whose incomings seem to them large if up to, or over, £150 a year, and of whose outgoings they know nothing.

2. Those of the classes mentioned who do subscribe generally expect to get back their subscriptions in some form. If there is work to be done at church or parsonage they, of course, get the job, and the profit will more than pay their voluntary offering.

3. Subscriptions from what one may call the shop-keeping class are given largely on personal grounds. The clergyman must be popular, or the churchwardens will ask in vain for the promised cheque; and often this cheque is so long delayed that the stipend is four, five, or six months in arrear where, as in most of the colonial dioceses, there is not a large central fund which can advance the money.

4. The people who give willingly and regularly belong (I still speak of the general rule) to the upper classes. Well-placed business men, men in the various professions, and landowners are the real supporters of the Church, so far as money is concerned, when the Church has to depend on the liberalty of her members. It is, of course, natural and right that those who have most should give most, but my present object is not to praise or blame any class, but to record the facts of my experience; and it is one of those facts that the subscriptions which keep our churches open come in the main not in the form of weekly pence, or quarterly shillings and florins, but in annual cheques of from £5 to £100, given by men who are accustomed to deal with large sums of money.

5. Just as an "extempore" sermon is only tolerable when it is carefully prepared beforehand, so a "voluntary" system of finance is admirable, according to the amount of endowment which deprives it of its voluntary character. When all diocesan expenses, income of Bishop, &c., are met by endowment, and when a parish has a great part of its income secured in the same way, the contributions of individual lay-people to augment stipend and meet various expenses are not only useful from the selfish clerical point of view, but are a very proper channel for the flow of Christian liberality. There are few, indeed, of us who cannot remember instances of wonderful generosity in their own parishes or dioceses; but let us not live in a Fool's Paradise and fancy that any unendowed or disendowed branch of the Anglican communion has been, or is likely to be, supported by the contributions of the many. It is by the few that this work, like every other work worth doing, must be done.

H. VERE WHITE.

All SS. Rectory, Waterford, June 4.

PROTECTION OF MOURNERS AT THE GRAVESIDE.

Sir,—Kindly permit me to state, in reference to the meeting advertised elsewhere in your columns to be held next week at 21, Carlton House-terrace, that cards of invitation can be had on application to the Church House, Westminster, or to myself.

Your obliged servant,

F. LAWRENCE, Hon. Sec.,
Funeral Reform Association.

Westow Vicarage, York, June 13.

THE NATIONAL HOME READING UNION.

Sir,—The National Home Reading Union owes its successful development in a very large measure to the interest which the Press takes in all efforts to foster the intellectual life of the country, and we therefore venture to ask you to allow us, though your columns, to make known the fact that, this year, two summer assemblies will be held under the auspices of the union, the one at Weston-super-Mare, the other at Bowness, or Windermere.

The object of the union is to provide such help as can be afforded by drawing up lists of carefully-selected books, by giving advice to our readers in our three magazines, by answering

questions and explaining difficulties. We endeavour in these respects to be of use to those who, unable to reach suitable oral teaching, trust to books alone for their mental development; but, at the same time, we try to increase their interest in and enthusiasm for the subjects which they study by giving them the opportunity in the summer of listening to eminent teachers under the pleasantest of circumstances.

Summer assemblies are somewhat the fashion of the day, and if we may venture to compare the meeting of the National Home Reading Union with the similar gatherings held at Oxford, Cambridge, and Edinburgh, we should claim for our meeting the merit of mobility as compared with the fifty of the other gatherings. We are free to choose for our student-holiday the places best suited to illustrate our year's reading.

To attempt to give the programme of our meeting, which will be held simultaneously from June 27 to July 2, would be to trespass unduly upon your space. Full particulars may be obtained from the General Secretary, N.H.R.U. Surrey House, Victoria Embankment. May I be allowed, however, to indicate the scope and high standard of our meetings by pointing out that at Weston the inaugural address will be given by Professor Jebb, M.P., and single lectures or short courses by Professors Sorley, Lloyd Morgan, Vaughan, Sir Robert Ball, Dr. Dallinger, Dr. Kimmino, Dr. Lawrence, Mr. Arthur Clayden, Mr. Churton Collins, and Mr. Childs.

The aim of the meeting at Bowness will be somewhat different, for the week will be devoted to the study of geology and botany, the artistic and poetic associations of the lake district, under the guidance of Mr. Marr, Mr. Masser, Dr. Bailey, Mr. Collingwood, Mr. Rawnsley, and Mr. Llewellyn Davies.

We shall welcome at the meetings all students, whether members of the Union or no.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours very faithfully,
ALEX HILL.

Downing College Lodge, Cambridge, June 9.

CHURCH WORK IN LONDON OVER THE BORDER.

Sir,—A year has now passed since, at a meeting held, through the kindness of the Duke of Westminster, at Grosvenor House, attention was called to the pressing need for Church organisation and extension in that extreme eastern outskirt of London which lies within the diocese of St. Albans and county of Essex, known ecclesiastically as "Barking Deanery," and popularly as "London over the Border." Some assistance was evoked by that meeting, but entirely inadequate to our needs. Meanwhile the tension has increased, and the position of that district must be, without large external help, nothing less than desperate. The census has revealed the fact that the decennial increase of population is larger in Essex than in any county in England or Wales—36 per cent.—and this increase is in the suburban portion alone, the rest having decreased or shown no material increase, except in the borough of Colchester.

Cut off twenty-five years ago, by the action of Archbishop Tait, from the diocese of London, to which it naturally belongs, and its connection with which was intentionally retained when the rest of Essex was detached from that diocese in 1845; excluded by that separation from any share in the benefits accruing from the sale of the fabrics in City churches and the reappropriation of their endowments; possessing within its area no acre of land in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and having therefore no "local claim" on their grants; just too far from the "West-end" to be easily visited by those who might otherwise be disposed to assist as voluntary Church-workers, while its own resident population of well-to-do people is year by year approaching nearer to the vanishing point; with none of the glamour which for some years past has been thrown over the older "East-end"; owning among its 350,000 of clerks, artisans, dock labourers, and factory hands only one "college mission" (at Stratford) and only one "school mission" (at Victoria Docks), and those on a comparatively small scale; having, therefore, all the disadvantages of poorer London with few or none of its compensations, this vast district is compelled to appeal *ad misericordiam* to the sympathies of all more fortunately circumstanced. The Bishop of St. Albans, the fund administered in whose name is the sole channel of help to these forty-five parishes, feels acutely the greatness of the burdens thus cast upon himself and his diocese. Sites for churches, mission rooms, Sunday-schools, &c., are obtained or promised in many parts of the district; but the funds with which to build are not forthcoming. An addition of £5,000 a year to the reliable income of the Bishop of St. Albans' Fund, and a sum of £10,000, specially for building, within the next two years and a half, would enable us at least to meet the most pressing wants, and to discharge the Church's liabilties towards so large a portion of the souls committed to her. Shall we knock in vain at the doors of wealthy London, or appeal in vain to those prosperous members of our Church throughout the country, whose name is legion?

Your obedient servant,
A. COLCHESTER, Bishop Suffragan.

Brentwood, June 14.

The Church Building Society held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday last at the Society's House, 7, Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, S.W. Arthur Powell, Esq., in the chair. There were also present Lord Robartes, the Revs. Canon Cazenove, Canon Coulson, Canon C. B. Hutchinson, George Miller, Canon C. F. Norman, Canon W. Chetwynd-Stapylton, H. E. Trotter, and C. Wyatt-Smith. Lt.-Col. the Hon. G. H. W. Windsor-Clive, Major Heales, Messrs. F. C. Dobbing, J. F. France, C. K. Norman, F. H. Rivington, F. H. Rooke, and the Rev. R. Milburn Blakeston, secretary. Grants of money were made in aid of enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Foxton, St. Andrew, near Market Harborough, £25; Ipswich, All Saints, £75; Stanbridge, St. John Baptist, near Leighton Buzzard, £30; Toddington, St. George, near Dunstable, £10; Tuxford St. Nicholas, near Newark, Notts, £20; and Upton Park, St. Stephen, Essex, £150. grants were also made from the Mission Buildings Fund towards building mission churches at Kensal Green, St. Peter, Middlesex, £25; Outlane, St. Mary, in the parish of Longwood, near Huddersfield, £25; and Prittlewell, St. Alban, Essex, £20. The following grants were also paid for works completed: Llanelly, St. Peter, £200; Woodlands, Church of the Ascension, near Salisbury, £50; Bootle, St. Matthew, near Liverpool, £350; Barnoldby-le-Beck, St. Helen, near Great Grimsby, £30; Primrose Hill, St. Mary, Middlesex, £75; and South Wimbledon, All Saints, Surrey, £125 on account of a grant of £250. The grants voted at this meeting have nearly exhausted the funds at the disposal of the committee; they feel that one of the great needs of the Church at the present time is the providing mission buildings in densely populated districts, and in widespread rural parishes, and they appeal earnestly to Church people to come forward with liberal contributions, both to the General Fund and the Mission Buildings Fund, to enable them to give substantial grants to the many pressing cases that are being constantly brought before them, and to continue the valuable work which this Society has so successfully carried on during the past seventy-five years.

La Rochelle has for many years been infested with the white ant. This pest, a Foreign Office report states, was introduced about the end of the last century, and for a long time was confined to a particular quarter of the town, but through the imprudence of builders engaged in repairing the damage these insects had done to the houses (who, instead of burning the old wood, allowed it to be carried away), they are now almost everywhere, and many public and private buildings are in a dangerous state from them. They eat away the beams and timbers from the inside, which makes it very difficult to know the exact amount of damage done, and therefore a house can never be safe where they are known to be. In some cases it has been necessary, as a precaution, to have the important supporting beams and woodwork taken out and replaced by iron, lest the houses should come down unexpectedly. This has had to be done at the Prefecture, which was the first place where they appeared, and where of late years they have eaten part of the archives, and there are gardens in which it is useless to attempt to grow certain flowers (for instance, geraniums), which they attack by eating out the inside of the stalk, leaving only the skin untouched. It has been found impossible to destroy or get rid of them.

The "Native Fairs" of Alaska point to an old-established commerce between Siberia and the North-West of America, by which articles of Chinese and Japanese manufacture may have found their way into America before Columbus discovered it. According to Lieutenant M. C. Gorgas, U.S.N., and Mr. J. Horner, one of these fairs is held in June, at Port Clarence, near the narrowest part of Behring Straits, and is attended by large numbers of the Chukchis of Siberia, and the Indians of Cape Prince of Wales on the American continent. Another fair is held at Wotham Inlet, on the north shore of Kotzebue Sound, during July and August, and is attended by 1,500 people from both sides of the Straits. A third fair is held at Point Lay, and a fourth at Camden Bay near the mouth of the Mackenzie River.

Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson has, it is stated, chosen Rookwood as the title he will assume, subject to Her Majesty's approval, as a member of the House of Lords. Rookwood is the name of an old hall on the right hon. Baronet's estate.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics appearing in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on June 4, 11, 18, and 25.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competition so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(JUNE, 1892.)

1. G	AELI	C
2. R	UMME	R
3. I	THAC	A
4. E	THIO	P
5. F	IF	E

Solutions have been received from Erica and Hadji.

MARCH TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Sociable and Chelmsford, who remain competing.

APRIL TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Dunston, The Griffin, E.V.P., and Boozlewax, who remain competing.

MAY TIES.—Correct solutions have been received from Molly, Iden, Robin, and Ancient Briton, who remain competing. E.A.F., White Hat, and Noryb fall out of the competition.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(JUNE, 1892.)

PROEM.

This is each who in the world appears.
And this becomes in the flight of years.

1.

Mysterious learning of an Eastern race.

2.

Is partly a spear and partly a mace.

3.

Dangerous letters are these to trace.

4.

This lips will utter yon will see.

5.

Missile or river alike may be.

It appears that Rome will soon have a "Jardin d'Acclimatation," the expenses of which will soon be repaid by the sums derived from the 120,000 strangers who annually go to Rome, and will not fail to visit the garden. The ground has already been rented for ten years, and will at first be provided with herbivorous animals and birds as a zoological garden, being enriched by degrees, and ultimately used for the acclimitisation of plants and trees. The plot of ground taken is the private part of Villa Borghese, in which are a small lake and thick grove of trees.

The way in which the Indian Army is beginning to draw upon Australia for its horses shows how the different parts of the Empire may be made to work together for purposes of defence. An advertisement now appearing in the Government Gazettes states that the Indian Government requires 1,200 Australian horses, familiarly termed whalers. The price given is 650 rupees (say £43) per head in Calcutta, Bombay, or Madras. The horses required are of three classes—artillery, hussars, and medium cavalry. In the Indian cavalry alone there are over 6,000 Australian horses in use. "In the single matter of equpping cavalry the colonies might well turn the scale," says Mr. Parkin, "in an Eastern war."

The introduction of bumble bees into New Zealand a few years ago to secure the fertilisation of the red clover was, it will be remembered, a remarkable success. A list of the plants and flowers visited by these bees in their new home was lately made by Mr. G. M. Thomson. He states that, with few exceptions, he has never heard of visits of these bees to the flowers of indigenous plants, but that they have increased in numbers to such an extraordinary extent that they threaten, on account of absorbing so much of the nectar of the flowers, to became as serious a pest to the apiarist as the rabbits have proven to the farmer.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JUNE 18.

The Duke of Argyll made some pungent comments on the political position in the course of a speech which he delivered at Leeds on Wednesday. Alluding to the speeches of the Radical leaders on Home Rule, he said:—"I have read a perfect surfeit of new speeches, and I have tried to classify what is the nature of the addresses which they present to their countrymen upon this question, which is to affect a Constitution which has grown up during ages and may be affected for ages yet to come. It seems to me that they all consist of these three or four things—passion and ambiguities, platitudes and chaff. The passion and the ambiguities were Mr. Gladstone's, and the platitudes came from the bulk and the whole ruck of the party. They handled his ambiguities and quoted his language and double-faced phrases without seeing that they were ambiguities. As for chaff, they had two grand representatives—Sir William Harcourt did all the heavy pleasantry and the Earl of Rosebery did all the light buffoonery."

He went on to speak of one ambiguous phrase of Mr. Gladstone's. The Duke said:—"Mr. Gladstone and all his minions are always using the expression, 'Peculiarly Irish affairs,' 'their own affairs.' They mean everything except foreign affairs, the whole lives and liberties of the Irish people. Now Lord Thring, an old friend of my own and of Mr. Gladstone's, who before his elevation to the peerage was a Civil servant, was the Government draftsman in my time for all Mr. Gladstone's Bills, drew the whole of the Home Rule Bill, and he has written two or three papers about it which appear in what is called *The Handbook of Home Rule*, published by the Gladstonian party. And Lord Thring confirms my suspicions—and I must say horrible suspicions—that what they mean by that phrase I have alluded to is that we are to give to the Dublin Parliament, composed as we know it will be and must be, the whole liberties of our fellow subjects and everything except foreign affairs. Go to the elections which are coming on and tell the people of England that all they are to retain is, not any check over the Irish Parliament as regards the lives and liberties of their fellow subjects in Ireland, but merely a prohibition that they are not to interfere with foreign affairs. I was reading only the other day that new book which has just come out about the Persian Empire, by Mr. Curson, M.P., a most interesting and instructive book. You know that Persia is one of the most declining empires in the world. I do not believe it will last long, but the present Shah, who was here two or three years ago, is a comparatively enlightened man. He could not but be struck by the enormous wealth, enterprise, and energy of the Western nations. He consulted his friends here, and said:—'Why cannot I get my people to begin and go forward with all this industry and regenerate my country?' He was told that the reason was that there was no security for personal freedom in Persia. No man was secure in his industry, no man could depend upon a just administration of the law. Accordingly when the Shah went home he issued a proclamation on the most enlightened principles of Western government. What was the first principle that the Shah took under his special protection? The personal liberty and the property of every one of his subjects. That was his idea of Imperial power. Let Mr. Gladstone go and sit at the Shah's feet. He will learn a truth or two that he is willing to abandon in the face of the people of Ireland and in the face of the people of England. I call this a base abdication of the highest duty which belongs to the Imperial functions of the Crown. It is not the duty of the Crown to look after foreign affairs alone. It is the duty of the Imperial Government to look after the life, property, and liberty of every one of Her Majesty's subjects."

Mr. Balfour's speech delivered on Wednesday last, at the dinner of the National Union of Conservative Associations, was looked forward to with keen expectation. It was known that it would be the Ministerial manifesto in view of the General Election, and it was hoped that it would be of a kind to give satisfaction to Conservative sentiment. This is unhappily not the case, and it would be folly to attempt to conceal the fact that the speech is looked upon in Conservative circles as thoroughly disappointing. He devoted some time to the questions that directly concern London, and referring to Mr. Gladstone's London programme, he said:—"I find that the subjects with which Mr. Gladstone dealt were registration, the Lord Mayor, the police, ground-rents, and labour, and he appeared to think that upon these subjects he had something to say which was extremely interesting and important to Londoners, and which might induce the ordinary voter, more concerned with London municipal affairs than with Imperial affairs, to support him in his Imperial policy. Now, let us take the first question he touched upon—namely, registration. Is there a single Conservative, belonging either to London or to any other part of the country, who does not admit now, and has not admitted for years, that our registration laws require reform? Whether all the items of reform suggested by Mr. Gladstone or his followers are right ones or not I do not now discuss, but that the existing system of registration is one which requires reform every one that I have ever heard of is prepared to accept. About the City of London and the City Companies I do not propose to say much. To destroy an ancient institution, to plunder ancient and wealthy corporations, are occupations so congenial to the special spirit of the Separatist party that I should be sorry to deprive them of the pleasure of at all events attempting that task, but to contend for one moment that a single ratepayer in London or a single working man in this gigantic metropolis would be one penny the better is to talk abject nonsense. With regard to the police, I have only to say at present that so far as I can judge from Mr. Gladstone's own utterances he is perfectly alive to the fact that you cannot in London carry out a symmetrical process, and that, as far as an important part of London is concerned, it would not be desirable to hand over the interests of that part to the control of municipal police. If Mr. Gladstone holds that view it is not for me to dispute or to discuss it, and I will only add on this subject that, whatever may be the result of handing over the remaining part of London to municipal police, it will certainly not increase your security and it would equally certainly increase your rates. On the subject of ground-rents and the rating question generally, I have no objection—and I believe I speak the minds of my colleagues—to the division of rates. On the contrary, though I believe that it will be found by those who take the experiment in hand that it is very much more difficult to carry out than they suppose, I am perfectly prepared—so long as no existing contract is interfered with—to see in this respect an alteration in the apparent incidence of taxation, and so far as what are known as ground-rents especially are concerned, my view always has been and is still that that and all other forms of income should be brought into account in dealing with the subjects which have to be paid for at present out of the rates, and that that is more justifiable than to do what you now do—namely, to throw education and all those other burdens, the list of which is too long to specify, not upon the people who benefit by them, but only upon a section of the people who benefit by them, and not upon people according as they do benefit by them, but according as they live in a dwelling rated at a greater or less amount. Therefore, I myself, though I see great practical difficulties in the way, would rejoice to see any alteration in the law which would make the incidence of taxation perfectly clear, and which would bring into the net of taxation every species of property which benefits by taxation. With regard to the remaining question which Mr. Gladstone raised—namely, that of labour—I confess that I find it difficult either to confute or to agree with his opinions, because I find it very difficult to understand them. I have read this particular portion of his speech with the closest attention, and I think that I am not misrepresenting him when I say that his view with regard to the relation between public bodies and labour is that a municipal body like the London County Council ought to remunerate labour on a scale which represents the equilibrium between the desire of the ratepayers to save their money and the desire of the philanthropist to increase wages, but that when the State has to deal with the same problem it is to throw philanthropy to the winds and obtain labour at the cheapest possible rate of which the conditions of the labour market will admit. He justifies that extraordinary difference between the action proper to municipal bodies and the action proper to the State by arguments which I confess myself wholly unable to understand, and I therefore dismiss this portion of his speech by saying that it appears to me that he is entirely on the wrong track, and I object both to his recommendation to the municipal bodies and to the State. I think that every public body, be it a town council or a county council, or Parliament itself, should act towards the labour which it employs in the spirit of the most liberal and enlightened employer of labour—should do that and should do no more, and I rejoice to think that it is under the present Government and through the administration of the heads of the spending departments that that principle has been extended to the administration of those departments, and that at the present time we are pledged—and our successors through us—to deal with the labour they employ upon the just, equitable, and liberal principles which I have just ventured to recommend for the acceptance of every public authority."

With regard to the increase of the powers of the London County Council, he remarked:—"My personal opinion is that London should have the powers as regards water and gas, and all those questions which other municipalities have. It may be expedient or it may be inexpedient for London to buy up water and gas and tramways. If the municipality choose to misuse the powers possessed by other municipalities, it is the affair of the London ratepayers, and it is for them alone to say whether these things should be done, and if they are done, and the London ratepayers suffer, it is their affair, and their affair alone, and I will not consent to have these local questions dragged into the field of Imperial politics." This declaration of opinion will not gain the Ministry a great number of votes in London. If London local questions are dragged into the field of Imperial politics, it is the Conservative Government which is alone to blame, it is the effect, and the foreseen effect of their foolish legislation.

With regard to a programme for the future Mr. Balfour said:—"In the first place, we have remaining over from the great work—I think I am not wrong in calling it the great legislative work—which we have done in the last six years great problems which require their final legislative solution. For Ireland there is the Irish Local Government Bill Then we have further for Ireland a continuation and development of that policy of public works which has been met by so much favour in that country, and which I firmly believe will do more for its permanent prosperity than a thousand Parliaments established on the other side of St. George's Channel would do. With regard to Scotland, a not dissimilar problem presents itself. There on the west coast of the Highlands you have to meet questions like in almost all their conditions, both moral and physical, to those with which you have to deal on the west coast of Ireland. There we have begun, but not as yet completed, a policy like that which we have pursued in Ireland, and which remains for completion at our hands. Although I am not tempted to-night to emulate our rivals in making a 'programme' speech, there is another question which we have had at heart for many years, to which I pledged myself when I was Scotch Secretary, and which I have endeavoured to carry out in the course of the present session, as Leader of the House, to give to Scotland that which I think she has a right to claim—viz., the local management of her private Bill legislation without the cost and the trouble of coming to Westminster.

"As regards England and the United Kingdom generally, there is one question of fundamental importance which I for one do not wish to press to the front, but which I think is very likely to come to the front. Our opponents are always talking about 'One man one vote.' They are always talking about what they are going to do in the way of registration. For

my part I am perfectly ready to deal with all these questions if it be necessary. Registration is, I think, important, but I put it out of account; I am perfectly ready to deal with all these questions, which are in effect Reform Bills, if you deal with them completely. My objection to dealing with them at all is simply that they block the way to more important, more useful, and more far-reaching legislation. But if you wish to deal with them, if you insist upon touching again this question of the franchise, deal with it, in Heaven's name, as a whole. Of all questions connected with the franchise, that which deals with registration is incomparably the most important. For my part I am prepared to allow Ireland to go on having far more than her fair share of representation: I am prepared to allow London to go on having far less than her fair share of representation, only because there are other questions which I think are more pressing. But if you mean to touch ever so lightly this question of reform, then, I say, Ireland must be deprived of that which she unjustly possesses and London and the country must be given it. There is yet another question with which want of time has prevented us from dealing—a question which I believe to be of the most vital importance—that of the employer's liability. That it is surrounded with difficulties I do not deny, and we shall probably on that account have to wait until we see what light can be thrown upon the subject by the Labour Commission which we have appointed; but I make no question whatever that when we have that report before us, and when we have the evidence upon which the report was founded, we shall be able in a large and statesmanlike spirit to put an end to the anomalies—the absolutely indefensible anomalies, as I think—of the existing law, and to place the relation of employer and employed, so far as this question is concerned, upon an equitable basis satisfactory alike to those who represent the capitalists and to those who represent the workmen. One more question with which we are pledged to deal remains to be noticed. It is the question of district councils. As you know, in Scotland we have more or less dealt with the question, and in Ireland our Bill proposed to deal with the question. In England it remains undealt with, and no scheme of local government can by any possibility be considered as complete which does not extend to smaller areas within the county the same principles of local self-government which we have given with no niggard hand to the larger areas by recent legislation."

Mr. Balfour proceeded to vaguely promise some alteration of the Poor Law system. He said:—"I think the time has come when something more is required, and when some modification will be necessary in the administration of our existing system. It is unsatisfactory, and it is more than unsatisfactory, that any appreciable proportion of our labouring population should be compelled to look to the workhouse or to public relief as the only resource of their old age. It is also unsatisfactory, and more than unsatisfactory, that the working men who have through a long life been industrious, honest, and sober, should be treated when they are obliged to seek relief in the workhouse more or less in the same category as the ordinary tramp or as the thriftless or the drunkard."

He went on to say "that undoubtedly the enormous efforts made by the great friendly societies have produced, are producing, and will produce in future a most gigantic change with regard to the happiness of the agricultural labourer in periods of sickness, calamity, and old age; and therefore, undoubtedly this evil which exists to a degree which in parts of England, I am afraid, if we thoroughly realise, would shock us beyond measure—this evil of poor relief being the inevitable end of a long and laborious life is, I think, in the process of natural mitigation. It is our business to consider whether, either through private enterprise or through the friendly societies or in co-operation with the friendly societies, if they desire co-operation, or in some other way, we cannot anticipate the consummation which I believe to be inevitable, and so put an end to a state of things which is undoubtedly discreditable to our civilisation. I venture to offer myself no plan on the subject. I am sceptical about most of the plans which I have seen put forward. I believe that probably we shall find a solution in a great extension of private enterprise; but I by no means exclude State assistance, if any method can be found for giving that assistance without drying up the sources of private energy and without sterilising the efforts which would otherwise be made."

Mr. Balfour, still dealing with the subject of the Poor Law, said:—"The second point that I would touch upon deals with the existing system of workhouse management. Here I think it will be possible, and, if possible, it is certainly desirable, that something should be done greatly to extend and improve the principle already recognised by our law of classification in the workhouse. It is an undoubted shock, I will not say to our consciences, but to our best instincts, when we see two men living in cottages next to each other, engaged in the same pursuit, one of them, perhaps, thriftless, and a drunken fellow, the other a sober, well-conducted, industrious labourer, possibly even a labourer who has been able to save through his life, and who has invested in some village friendly society a portion of his hard-earned gains—it is a shock to see these two people, through the bankruptcy of this village association, an incident which is of but too frequent occurrence, reduced towards the end of their life to precisely the same condition, sent to the same workhouse, and treated in the same way. How far it would be well to draw a distinction between the two in practice I do not say; but that it would be possible I believe. But it will be only possible if you greatly extend your area of Poor Law administration, and enable a county to do what London can now do—namely, to devote special buildings to special classes. I am perfectly certain that in this way much can be done to alleviate the lot of the deserving poor. There is another problem which calls for our most serious consideration. Take the case of a man who, after a long life, has fallen ill with a chronic illness, absolutely disabling him from work. Suppose such a man to require assistance which he cannot obtain at home, having no family. Suppose such a man sent to the workhouse on account of that necessary assistance. Under our existing system that man may have saved enough for a weekly pension of 3s. or 4s., and that pension is taken away by the Poor Law authorities before he can obtain workhouse assistance. I do not say that that system has not a certain logical justification, but I say it is inconsistent with thrift; it is a direct incentive to spending; and, if that is to be the end of a man who saves, as it is the end of a man who does not save, you remove from our working-classes one of the greatest incentives to thrift that now exists. I am aware that this is a problem of the utmost difficulty, but I think it is a problem which presses for solution; and, difficult though it is, I do not for one moment believe that it is beyond the capacity of Parliament, or of this Government to deal with it adequately."

It is not often that Mr. Balfour delivers a dull speech, but, as will be seen, Mr. Balfour was very dull on this occasion. In his preroration, in which he drew a contrast between the two parties, he was a little more animated. He said:—"The country has to choose—it will have to choose in the course of a few days—for which party it will cast its vote. There is the party of vague and indefinite promises, and there is the party of performances in the past, which gives you a clear indication of what it is prepared to do in the future. Which will you have? There is the party which, if it comes into office, will have to govern Ireland, but which, when in Opposition, has coquetted with crime in Ireland; and there is the party which has put down crime and disorder in Ireland, and which in so doing, has saved the rights and liberties of the minority in that country. Which will you have? There is the party which desires to hand over Ireland to the certainty of misrule, and to the probability of revolution; and there is the party which desires to continue the same policy of steady administration which has been so successful in the past. Which will you have? There is the party which puts Home Rule and the endless and empty discussions which must proceed from it in the forefront of its legislative programme; and there is the party which desires to continue in the immediate future the beneficent work which it has been carrying on in the past. Which will you have? There is the party which, in foreign affairs, will wreck your interests in the future, as it has too often wrecked your interests in the past by dubious and doubtful policy, and by indecision even more fatal than error. And there is the party which, through six eventful years—years fraught with peril, years not of ease but of difficulty, not of assured calm, but incessant inquietude—has steered your destinies without a war, without the threatening of a war, and without the expenditure which war and the threatenings of war equally bring upon you. Which party will you have? There is the party which, if I may trust to the indications it has given of its policy, is prepared to abandon in Africa the mighty interests which England has undertaken, and the great causes which England is bound to carry through; and there is the party which calmly and deliberately recognises the duties which our position imposes upon us, and is prepared to carry out those duties to the end Which party will you have? I cannot doubt that if the country understood the issue before them, if they know that, whether you look at home or abroad, whether you look to legislation or to administration, the Unionist party have proved in the past and are prepared to prove in the future that to them, and to them alone, can safely be intrusted the destinies of this Empire—if they understand that, they will continue through the indefinite future the confidence which they have so liberally bestowed upon us in the past."

Writing to the *Times* on the Small Holdings Bill, Lord Wemyss remarks:—"The question has to be answered, supposing these small holdings to be established, will they pay? Let a west country small holder reply. Some years ago I found myself on a 12th of August driven home by stress of weather from a Westmorland moor, and when walking alongside of one of the beaters I asked him if he was what in those parts is called a 'statesman,' or small owner. He replied that he was a tenant, farming with the help of his son-and-law and family seven acres of pasture and five of arable land. On my inquiring if he made a comfortable living off it, his reply was, 'Oh, no, we could not live on eleven acres, but we manage to get along by help of 'sheepgates'; we have the right to pasture twenty-five sheep on one hillside and fifty-six on another, and thus we manage to pull through.' So much for an eleven acre holding. How as to those of larger amount? Again I must relate my own experience—this time in Suffolk, when driving to a partridge 'shoot' with the late Colonel Tomline. As we passed a tidy little house, garden, &c., he said, 'This place has just been offered to me.' I asked what it was. He replied, 'A small property of forty acres belonging to a yeoman.' 'Why does he sell?' 'Because in these days a farm of forty acres does not pay. He wants to get his money and invest elsewhere in something that will pay him better.' And here incidentally I may mention, as showing the natural tendency of land to agglomerate, that Colonel Tomline first purchased the estate at Orwell, of 3,000 acres—and at the time I speak of he was the owner of 23,000—in what is called a ring fence. The small holdings were absorbed. Why? Simply because they did not pay under natural conditions. Will they pay better under the unnatural forcing of the State; I doubt it; and if a law were passed forbidding men to part with small holdings when a good and sufficient offer was made for them, such a law could not in the long run be upheld."

Lord Wemyss proceeds to enquire—"'Who ought to pay for this small holding State experiment?' The Bill says the already oppressed and asininely long-suffering ratepayers: I say the 'State' should pay for its own experiments, the money for which should come out of the Consolidated Fund, and not out of the rates. Who are the ratepayers? All dwellers in the country owning or occupying houses of a certain value. Four pounds is, I think, in general, the limit of value below which assessments are not levied. Well, why are ratepayers to find money for experimental small holdings and allotments for agricultural labourers? Why are the butcher, the baker, the blacksmith, the grocer, &c., to be assessed for this? And by what possible process of State reasoning, save that the agricultural labourer has infinitely greater voting power than all these put together, is this injustice to be committed? Why are not shops and smithies to be equally found for these other subjects of the Queen? I fail to see it,

and am content to leave the question to be answered in the Lords, where I hope it will be pressed upon the Government by some peer of an enquiring and practical turn of mind. Surely it is at the public expense alone that political, social, uneconomic State experiments should be made."

On the question of Allotments and Small Holdings Sir J. B. Lawes, who is admittedly one of the chief authorities on agricultural affairs, has written a highly interesting letter to the *Times*. With regard to allotments, Sir J. B. Lawes gives his own experience. He says:—"It is now about forty years since I set apart from eight to ten acres, and a few years later about an equal area, as garden allotments, for the most part of one-eighth of an acre each, some, however, being less, the whole number of tenants amounting to between 160 and 170. In the midst of the allotment ground, I built a clubhouse for the members, where they could have their beer and smoke their pipes independently of the publichouse. The management of the gardens and of the club is in the hands of a committee of twelve of the members, who are elected annually. Many of these allotments are held by agricultural and other labourers, and I believe it is the unanimous opinion that one-eighth of an acre is quite as much as a man depending on weekly wages can properly cultivate. In fact, whilst no demand has been made for larger areas, requests have occasionally been made for smaller ones on account of the smallness of the family or the age of the tenant. More recently about twenty-nine acres have been devoted to allotments in another part of the parish. Of these 112 are of one-eighth of an acre or less and twenty-five are of larger area. The twenty-five allotments, ranging from a quarter of an acre to an acre and a half, are for the most part held by persons of the most varied occupations—namely, two carpenters, two publicans, a blacksmith, two carters, a dealer, a butcher, a coal dealer, a navvy, a platelayer, a market gardener, a groom and gardener, a pensioner, a bricklayer, a shoemaker, and a general labourer. There are also five agricultural labourers, two of whom have, however, joined with others. Lastly, a few years ago a notice was put up in the clubroom that about six acres adjoining the original garden allotments would be let in plots of one acre each at the ordinary agricultural rent of the land, but not a single labourer became an applicant for one of these lots. Of the total number of about 300 allotments, nearly 270 are garden allotments of one-eighth of an acre or less, and it is among the tenants of these that almost the whole of the agricultural labourers are to found, whilst the majority of the holders of the larger or farm allotments are persons whose earnings and general positions are much above those of the labourer, some of them owning the houses in which they live and having horses or other stock."

With regard to the small holdings Sir J. B. Lawes does not believe in them, and his opinion carries considerably more weight than that of Mr. Jesse Collings or Mr. Chaplin. Sir J. B. Lawes asserts:—"It is one thing to provide the agricultural labourer with sufficient garden ground to occupy his spare time and provide his family with vegetables, or to provide the small tradesman of more spare means and time, and who does not derive his livelihood from the land, with a somewhat larger area to enable him to add a little to his income and quite another to establish tenants, or peasant proprietors, of small holdings, who are supposed not to receive wages, but to derive the whole of their income from the land. It is alleged, however, that with such a system there would be created an incentive to the rural populations to remain on the land instead of migrating to the towns or emigrating to our colonies or elsewhere. It happens that for many years past there has been an excellent school in our village, with the result that many of the sons of the labourers look with contempt at the occupation of their fathers; and they easily obtain much better wages on the railways or in the towns than they can get on the land, and as a rule they succeed exceedingly well if they are moderately intelligent and also industrious and steady. It seems to be assumed, especially by those not acquainted with practical agriculture, that, if a sufficient quantity of land can be obtained at not more than its ordinary agricultural value and small farms established on it, the flow of the rural populations into the towns would be arrested; and some, indeed, are so sanguine in the matter that they think it is desirable that the land should be taken compulsorily in order to secure so important a result. It is not without interest, therefore, to consider what are the probabilities that the nation or the ratepayers would obtain an adequate return in the shape of interest if land were acquired at its ordinary agricultural value and devoted to such a purpose. There is some fairly good agricultural land in this parish which might be obtained at the low rate of £30 per acre. Opinions may differ as to how many acres would be required to support a man, his wife, and family; but if we assume the land to be arable, and that ordinary farm crops are to be grown upon it, it is probable that, with the very low saleable value of grain crops, not less than forty or fifty acres would be required to enable the holder and his family to make a living in this way. The purchase-money of, say, fifty acres at £30 per acre would be £1,500. A house, stable for two horses, cowhouse, some open shedding, a yard walled in, all the necessary roads and fencing, and, by way of equipment of the farm, a pair of horses, one or two cows, a few sheep and pigs, and the necessary implements, would together cost not less than £700 or £800, say £750. So far, then, the outlay would probably be about £2,250. When a man is set up in a shop he begins at once to earn a living, but not so the farmer. Supposing he enters upon his farm at Michaelmas, he must have the means of living, keeping his stock, and paying any other expenses until nearly the next Michaelmas, and for this at least £1 15s. per week must be allowed, making altogether £91. Further, for the same reason that there would be little or no produce to sell during the first year, anything in the shape of interest or annual instalment, which can hardly be put down at less than 20s. per acre, as well as tithe rent-charge and rates, at say 8s. per acre, making together £70, would probably have to be placed to capital account, which for the first year would therefore stand at £2,411. It has been suggested that the money should be lent to the small holder at very low interest, say 2½ per cent.; but the Government Bill states that the money will not be available at less than 3½ per cent. At the lower of these rates the interest on the above sum would amount to rather over £54, and on the higher to rather over £75 per annum. Either of these amounts would certainly rather heavily handicap the small farmer. Nor does the transaction promise to be a very profitable one either for the State or for the ratepayers, whichever may be responsible for the money in the last resort. Then, on the assumption that the tenant is to become the owner, there will be a further annual charge beyond that of mere rent, for a shorter or longer period of years, according to the amount which he is able to pay off independently in the meantime.

"Belgium is frequently quoted as a model for ourselves in the matter of small holdings, and the production of the smaller articles of comparatively high value. Belgium and England are, indeed, in some particulars well suited for comparison, but in others for contrast rather than comparison. Thus, Belgium and England have each a much greater population for a given cultivated area than any other European country; and the number is very nearly the same for a given area in the two countries. But, whilst England produces more grain, more potatoes, and a greater weight of live stock per acre than Belgium, Belgium, on the other hand, gives a greater proportion of dairy produce, and of fruit and vegetables; and small holdings are very characteristic of the portions of the country yielding these results. By far the greater part of the small holdings are in the light land districts, and in those districts the cultivators are as a rule not the proprietors. There are, however, some small farms in the heavier land districts, and here the cultivators are frequently the owners also. It is admitted that the larger farms yield a greater produce per acre of ordinery farm crops and stock than the smaller ones. Owing to the peculiarities of the soil and climate especially of the great light land district where the small holdings prevail, a very characteristic practice is the growth of two crops in one year. Thus, with a light soil, high summer temperature, long days, and an open autumn, the growth of what we call 'catch crops' is a very prominent feature. Under these conditions the harvest is early, and after the removal of the grain a catch crop can be taken. After rye, turnips are almost invariably taken; turnips or spurrey after other corn crops, or carrots are sown in the wheat or flax. Indeed, it is stated that, owing owing to the adaptation of soil and climate, one-eighth of the whole of the cultivated land grows two crops a year. It is fully recognised in Belgium by those officially acquainted with the subject that the success of the small holdings depends very much on the facts that the soil is easily worked, and the soil and climate are such as to favour the practice of catch cropping, and that they are also favourable for the production of dairy produce, poultry and eggs, fruit and vegetables, whilst the dense population generally and the large number of towns afford convenient markets for the produce and for the return of town manures. Of course catch crops are not unknown in our own country, but it is only in some of our earliest districts that they could be relied upon. This fact is of itself evidence of a very material difference in the mutual relations of soil and climate in Great Britain and in the small holding districts of Belgium; and this difference would be very materially to the disadvantage of Great Britain in competition, not only with Belgium, but with other countries, in the production of some of the smaller articles of high value which have been referred to."

The practical conclusion at which Sir J. B. Lawes arrives is that "there is little hope that a system of small holdings can ever be carried out in this country to anything like the extent which experience has shown to be practicable in the countries that are so frequently held up to us as models by those unacquainted with the conditions essential to success, or even with practical agriculture at all. Indeed, no one who dismisses from his mind sentiment and the exigencies of party politics, and looks carefully into the facts of the subject, which is pre-eminently a very practical one, can entertain any hope that the system of small holdings can be carried out to any such extent as to counteract at all materially the flow of the rising rural populations into the towns."

The following tabular statement of results of analysis of the Clergy List for 1892 with respect to the population of parishes and the incomes of benefices has been prepared by the Rev. J. G. Deed, honorary secretary of the Incumbents' Sustentation Fund:—

Population of Parishes.	Value of Benefices. Under £100.	£100-£150.	£150-£200.	£200-£300.	Over £300.	Totals.
Not given ...	32	28	13	30	44	147
Under 250 ...	345	457	473	642	404	2,321
250-500 ...	156	364	448	849	1,058	2,875
500-1,000 ...	68	272	396	928	1,326	2,990
Over 1,000 ...	58	309	570	1,776	2,965	5,678
	659	1,430	1,900	4,225	5,797	14,011

Sir Terence O'Brien, the Governor of Newfoundland, in forwarding the Colonial Secretary's report on this colony for 1890 to Lord Knutsford, remarks that it is a great misfortune that, from its proximity to Europe, the capital and the largest amount of the population of Newfoundland should be settled on the peninsula of Avalon, the rocky coast of which, exposed to the fury of the Atlantic gales, first receives the fogs from the banks, giving to the passer-by at this, the only port of call for mail steamers, but a very poor idea of the fogless climate, milder and more equable than that of Canada, the lovely scenery, fine land, and vast forests, as well as of the great and varied mineral resources of other parts of the island, which are only awaiting population, energy, capital, and enterprise for their development. The report states that no very marked improvement in the condition of the people as compared with 1889 can be announced. There is a considerable falling-off in the value of the exports, and these may fairly be taken to represent the earning power of the people. The following figures will show that the production of the fisheries, mines, &c., for 1890 was 617,533dols. less in value than that of the previous year. Including Labrador returns in both instances, the exports for 1889 amounted to 6,643,666dols, and in 1890 to 6,026,133dols. The shortage is due not so much to decreased production as to a decline in value. The staple industry of the

island, the cod fishery, produced 32,080 quintals less in 1889, while there was a diminution in value of 750,000dols. Codfish in 1889 realised 4·30dols. per quintal, and in 1890 3·72dols. The take of lobsters for preserving purposes, though less in 1890 than in 1889 (69,334 cases to 76,216 cases), yielded a larger profit, the price per case having increased from 6·20dols. in 1889 to 7·50dols. in 1890. The revenue of the colony for 1890 amounted to 1,454,536·38dols., exclusive of loans, an increase over 1889 of 91,643dols.; the receipts on account of Customs being 1,342,099·78dols., as compared with 1,243,031.44dols. in 1889. The expenditure for 1890 was 215,447·53dols. less than in 1889.

The following statistics give the tonnage of the merchant navies of the chief maritime powers:—"British Empire (including U.K.), 9,962,000 tons; United Kingdom, 8,247,000 tons; Norway, 1,706,000 tons; Sweden, 511,000 tons; Denmark, 302,000 tons; German Empire, 1,433,000 tons; Holland, 256,000 tons; Belgium, 76,000 tons; France, 944,000 tons; Italy, 821,000 tons; Austria-Hungary, 204,000 tons; Greece, 271,000 tons: U.S. foreign trade, 1,006,000 tons; U.S. lake and coasting, 3,679,000 tons."

In a blue-book on India just published it is stated that in the Bengal presidency during 1891 there were in all twenty-nine English newspapers and seventeen periodicals published; thirteen vernacular newspapers came into existence, and twenty-four were discontinued. The number of publications received in the Bengal Library during the year was 1,731, or 872 less than in the previous year. Of this number 260 were periodicals, and of the remainder 246 were bilingual and 1,225 unilingual. Of the last class of books 708 were in Bengali, 177 in English, 102 in Sanskrit, ninety-seven in Hindu, fifty-four in Uriya, and nine in Urdu. Of the 1,047 original works of the year 277 dealt with Language; 151 treated of Religion; 124 of Science; 101 were works of Poetry; eighty of Fiction; fifty-five of History; and forty Dramatic.

The total number of books, pamphlets, and periodicals registered in Madras during the year was 1,022, against 1,366 in 1889. The number of books and pamphlets was 846, and that of periodicals 176. Out of the total number, 598 were original works, 389 were re-publications, and thirty-five were translations; 222 were published in English and other European languages; 624 in the vernacular languages spoken in the province; fifty-one in the Indian classical languages; and 125 in more than one language. Of the total number of publications registered, 209 were for educational purposes and the other 813 belonged to general literature, against 337 and 611 respectively in the previous year. More than 43 per cent. of the total number were religious or philosophical works. Of these 297 related to Hinduism, twenty-six were Mahomedan, 107 Christian, and thirteen Theosophical. The total number of vernacular newspapers and magazines fell from 100 in 1889-90 to ninety-two. The *Satyaduthan*, a Christian religious paper in Tamil, continued to have the largest circulation, namely, 5,500 copies. There was an increase in the number of newspapers of a general and political character, and a decrease in literary and religious publications.

In Bombay 2,044 publications were registered, or forty-four more than in 1889-90, and as usual the large majority of the books were either in Gujarati or Marathi. The number of English books published, eighty-four, was smaller than in the previous year, ninety-three, and consistedly mainly of treatises on medicine, law, or natural science. As usual, a great portion of the literature of the year was educational. In Marathi, 394 books and 167 periodicals were published against 365 and 118 respectively in the previous year. In Gujarati 395 books and, 310 periodicals were published, against 445 and 316 in 1889-90. The books in Urdu increased from sixty-two in 1889-90 to seventy-six in the year under review, but Hindi books fell from sixty-eight to fifty-nine. The number of works registered for copyright during the year was 356 against 383 in the preceeding year; and of these 305 were private and fifty-one were Government publications. At the close of the year 1890 there were 138 newspapers and twenty-eight periodicals, against 127 and thirty-one periodicals at the end of the previous year. The circulation of a very large majority of the vernacular newspapers was very small, only a few of them coming up to 400 copies. Twelve newspapers commanded a circulation of 1,500 copies and upwards.

In his present visitation charge the Archdeacon of Norfolk deals in some detail with the new criticism. He says:—"The criticism to which I refer has come into existence within the present century. It applied itself in the first instance to the history of the Creation in the Book of Genesis, and to the narrative of the origin of the Jewish nation, commencing from the call of Abraham. It then directed attention to the historical books of the Old Testament, raising questions about the authors, about the compilation of the component parts, and about the accuracy of the facts recorded. Subsequently it turned to the writings of the Prophets and to the Book of Psalms. At the same time, the books of the New Testament were equally called under review, especial attention being directed to the Gospel of St. John and to the Epistles of St. Paul. This 'higher criticism,' as it is called, had its origin in Germany. It then passed to France, where it was brought more prominently into notice by the ability and eloquence of M. Renan. It has since been introduced into our own country. Some thirty years ago considerable alarm was caused by the publication of *Essays and Reviews*, and by Bishop Colenso's book on the Pentateuch. The same alarm has recently been revived by men holding high position, as professors or tutors at our Universities, who have openly declared 'the necessity of endeavouring to interpret and explain the Catholic faith, so as to bring it into a truer relation with modern intellectual problems': and this especially in reference to the authority and the inspiration of Holy Scripture."

He points out that under limitations criticism is perfectly legitimate:—"'Ezra, in the fifth century before the Christian era, was a critic of such a type. So were the LXX. translators at Alexandria. So, later on, were Origen, and St. Jerome, and Chrysostom. So, later still, were Wickliffe, and Tyndal, and Coverdale.' The proper office of criticism is to ascertain the original and true text; to decide questions of date and authorship, not by preconceived theory or mere personal fancy, but by precisely the same canons which are applicable to all ancient literature. In this way the books of the Old Testament were collected and edited by the Jewish Church. In the same way the Scriptures of the New Testament were deliberately weighed and submitted to the judgment of the Christian Church before they were received as inspired, and were subsequently protected from the alterations which schools of heresy continually tried to introduce in favour of their peculiar views."

The Archdeacon goes on to say that "Even the more sober of the analytical critics agree in making very large demands on the traditional belief which we have always placed in the writings of the Old Testament. They tell us, for instance, that the first five books of the Bible were not written by Moses, but compiled, at a very much later date, from four separate documents; Deuteronomy standing entirely apart. They tell us that this composite history, which runs not only throughout the Pentateuch but also through the Historical Books, was mainly the work or a priestly party, who re-modelled the original narrative, interpolated later laws and regulations, and steadily kept one leading principle in view, of establishing what is called a 'Priestly Code,' and consolidating priestly authority. They tell us that the Book of Psalms is merely a national hymn-book, of which David may possibly have been the original compiler; that many Psalms which bear David's name were not written by him; and that much doubt rests, and must necessarily rest, upon the authorship of most of the Psalms; while the age to which particular Psalms may be attributed is quite uncertain. They tell us that the last twenty-seven chapters of the prophecy of Isaiah, together with considerable portions of the earlier thirty-nine chapters, were not written by Isaiah himself, but by some later prophet or prophets who lived in Babylonia towards the close of the Jewish exile. And that, notwithstanding the old tradition of the Jewish Church; for the author of the Book Ecclesiasticus, chapter xlviii. 24, describes these prophecies as written by Isaiah, 'who saw by an excellent spirit what should come to pass at last, and comforted them that mourned in Zion.' They tell us that the miracles of the Old Testament were not original component parts of the history, but insertions by another hand and at a later date. They tell us that many of the prophecies of the Old Testament are not strictly prophetic, but songs descriptive of the miseries under which the people groaned during the captivity; or else, as in the later chapters of Isaiah, descriptive of the nation's rejoicings over the prospect of revisiting Jerusalem when Cyrus had granted them permission to return, and to rebuild the Holy City.

"For all that we are thus asked to accept as proved, there is absolutely *no* external evidence. It is all gathered from within. It is deduced from the Old Testament itself and nothing more. The argument is based on a close microscopic inspection, verse by verse, of words, and style, and forms of expression. The theory receives no kind of support from any ancient Jewish author. It is in direct opposition to the traditions alike of the Jewish and of the Christian Church. It has this peculiarity that it leaves the early history of Israel almost entirely without a literature of its own, while it concentrates all the literary energies of the nation within the single age of Ezra; and for the grandest character of the Old Testament, it obscures the work, the influence, and even the personality of Moses almost to annihilation, by ascribing the writings of the great prophet and law-giver to a far later period, taking from him altogether the authorship of the Book Deuteronomy, and reducing his work as a legislator to a 'few primal laws and a few covenant obligations.' And, further, taking into consideration the very important fact of the existence of the Samaritan Pentateuch, and its testimony to the authenticity of the Mosaic books, the question at once arises, 'How is it possible to conceive that it should have been held by the Samaritans as of Divine inspiration if, at any later date than the division of the two kingdoms, such a compilation as is now conjectured had been made by their bitter enemies the Jews?' No rational supposition seems possible except that the kingdom possessed in the time of Rehoboam, at the very latest, some code corresponding closely with the manuscripts we now possess. And so, while we listen to the views of modern critics, we are fully justified in declining to accept their conclusions as proved. Their arguments, so far, are tentative, and nothing more. No certain results have yet been formulated, still less acknowledged by the Church. Each side may claim that the truth will, in the end, prevail. But, meanwhile, we hold that the credibility of the traditional view of the Old Testament has hitherto lost nothing of its vitality. *Stamus super antiquas vias.* We prefer the old paths. Nor is our distrust lessened when we remember the utter failure of modern criticism as applied to the writings of the New Testament. Within our own memory precisely similar theories have been held about the authenticity of the Gospels and of the Epistles. It was asserted with the utmost confidence that the four Gospels were not written by the authors whose names they bear, and that St. John's Gospel in particular was a compilation dating from the second half of the second century. And this theory was accepted by many. I can myself re-call instances of quotations from St. John being put aside as of no authority. But the defence was undertaken by able men, Bishop Lightfoot, Bishop Westcott, Dr. Salmon, and the new criticism broke down in utter collapse. The objections of Strauss and Renan and others were completely silenced, and the fact was brought out convincingly, and has never since been questioned, that the writer of the fourth Gospel was a Jew of Palestine; that he lived within the first century; that he was an eye witness of the facts he recorded; that he was no other than the beloved disciple, the Apostle St. John himself. 'The chain of evidence,' says Bishop Westcott, 'is now complete. Not one historical doubt is raised in any quarter.' So likewise with the Epistles of St. Paul and St. Peter. Their authorship was disputed, their dates questioned. They were regarded as the outcome of controversies

between Judaising and Gentile Christianity. They were said to be forgeries of partisans of different schools of thought who wrote in the Apostle's name. But all this has been fully disproved. The most hostile critic now admits not only that they are letters of St. Paul, but that some of the most important, those to the Romans, to the Corinthians, to the Galatians, were written within thirty years of our Lord's death. Nor do I doubt that fresh inquiry into the origin and authorship of the Old Testament will equally turn to the fuller confirmation of its inspiration and its truth. The study no doubt is involved in peculiar difficulties. No contemporary literature exists, and therefore there can be no reference to external evidence. As far as we at present know, the Scriptures alone must supply the arguments. But already the writings of the Old Testament are being searched anew by men who cling to the traditional belief. The last word has not yet been spoken, and we fearlessly wait the result."

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, the member for Preston, has an article in the current number of the *Fortnightly Review*, on the British Army, that deserves attention. Comparing the cost of the English Army with the military expenditure of other great Powers, he points out that: "We spend a great deal more than they and have a great deal less, even in numbers, to show for it, to say nothing of our inferiority in quality, homogeneity, and general preparation for war. France spends annually some £28,500,000 on her army. The total expenditure of the German army this year is also £28,500,000, of which £4,500,000 are an extraordinary expenditure on field-guns and rifles of a new pattern. The German navy estimate is just £4,800,000. Our naval expenditure is £16,571,000, but, of course, our Navy has far more duties to perform than theirs. On the other hand, our Army takes a much smaller share in the general defence of the Empire. Yet we spend upon it much more than France or Germany spend upon their armies, some £33,000,000 a year as against £30,000,000 at the most. A return just issued showing the net estimated expenditure upon the home army alone (the army, that is to say, under War Office control) gives £17,631,000 to be voted in army estimates, and £988,500 to be advanced from the Consolidated Fund, or a total of £18,619,500. This sum, however, by no means represents the real expenditure. The actual cost of the home army is some £20,500,000. The difference of nearly £2,000,000 is chiefly due to the fact that the Indian Government (besides £13,000,000 spent on the forces in India) contributes £850,000 to the expenses of the army at home, while the colonies pay us £250,000 and Egypt £87,000. Such questionable items as stoppages of soldiers' pay account for a further £250,000. All these large sums are deducted in the estimates from the actual cost.

"To compare the total cost of our paid voluntary army with that of the conscript armies of the Continent would, of course, be grossly unfair. The possibility of comparison, however, is not to be disposed of by speaking of ours as a paid and theirs as unpaid armies. Abroad the officers are all paid, and the non-commissioned officers are very highly paid indeed. In France each non-commissioned officer who agrees to extend his service for three years receives a bonus of £100. Germany spends some £8,000,000 and France £7,000,000 upon pay alone. On the other hand, ours is not a paid army to the extent which is generally assumed. Two-fifths of it, the Volunteers, are not paid at all, whether officers or men. Another one-fifth, the Yeomanry and Militia, are paid for only twelve and twenty-eight days respectively in the year. Thus only the remaining two-fifths are in receipt of daily pay. The privates of the Regulars and Reserve receive £4,800,000, of the Yeomanry £25,000, of the Militia, £250,000, taking something over a total of £5,000,000. These include a very large number of lance corporals, who in our army only draw pay as privates, but who in the French and German armies are treated as non-commissioned officers, and receive extra pay accordingly. They are about the hardest-worked men in the army, and our treatment of them is an extraordinary piece of penny-wise pound-foolish policy. The money expended on such items as honorary colonelcies might be devoted to this object with good practical results. If we deduct £5,000,000 from the £19,000,000, which are a very low estimate indeed for the annual cost of the home army, we have still £14,000,000 left as the total charge after the one great element of difference between Continental armies and our own, the pay of the men, has been removed. To allow every margin for other indirect results of this difference, though they are difficult to trace or imagine, I take the figure as £13,000,000 instead of £14,000,000.

"What quantity of men do we obtain for this sum? This year's estimates show a total of only 557,000, including, of course, the Reserves, and excluding the British troops serving in and paid by India. Every man in any way liable to service is included. For the corresponding £28,000,000, or say £30,000,000, France can show 2,800,000 men and Germany 2,301,000 under twelve years' service, with an enormous force of trained men organised behind them again. But if we deal merely with the figures of 2,301,000 and 2,800,000, we arrive even thus at some startling results. If we take the whole British force of 557,000 men, and compare them, good and bad, with the Regulars and Reserve of the two armies named, each of our units represents an expenditure annually of £23 10s., each German unit of £13 10s., and each French unit of £11 10s. If we limit the comparison to our Regulars and Reserve our unit costs £60 as against £13 10s. for the German and £11 10s. for the Frenchman. Their Reserves, it must be remembered, are periodically trained, while ours are not; and, of course, the pay of our privates must be added to the above figures in each instance."

In an excellent account of archæological excavations in Greece, which Mr. Charles Waldstein contributes to the *New Review*, there is a description of the methods actually adopted. "Before excavations are commenced," he tells us, "it is necessary to obtain the authority from the Greek Government, which has a Department of Excavation and Museums in the Ministry of Public Instruction, and which the writer has always found eager to further the work of foreign archæologists. An *ephor*, or superintendent, and an *epistates*, or guardian, are then sent with the expedition to look after the interests of the Greek Government; and one or both of these are constantly present during the excavations. The next task (and a very troublesome one it is) is the actual taking possession of the land itself. If the site be private property, there is no end to the difficulties, often disheartening, which meet the attempt at coming to an agreement with the proprietor. But fortunately much of the land in Greece is the property of the State or of the monasteries (which amounts to the same), and the peasants are merely tenants or squatters. Compensation for the crops that may be destroyed is often a comparatively simple matter. Besides the personal outfit of the excavator, it is well that he should provide himself with a good stock of proper tools: picks and spades with long and short handles and a large number of the native rush baskets for carrying earth. He will generally be able to find workmen among the poor peasantry of the neighbouring village. They are, on the whole, kindly and frugal, and, with three rests, two of half an hour and one of an hour, they work from about six in the morning till six in the evening for the average pay of from two and a-half to three drachmas, or Greek francs, per diem. These people have the most striking characteristic of all the Greek peasantry and people, a really childlike disposition; and they possess both the virtues and faults of children. But it is always advisable to add to this corps of workmen a small number of hands practised at excavating, generally to be found at Athens, to whom one gives larger wages. But in all cases it will be necessary that one member of the exploring body be always on the spot, and watch every movement of the workmen. This is not only to avoid the possible childlike confusion between the *meum* and *tuum* which is not an uncommon failing of these workmen; but also because they may cast aside as worthless some fragment of pottery or bit of stone which may become an important piece of evidence, and because it is desirable for the excavator himself to see the nature of the different strata as his work proceeds downward.

"The actual process of excavating is still very simple and rudimentary. The men generally work in batches of four, one using the pick, the other the spade, while two carry the earth on their shoulders in rush baskets. They are, of course, inclined to linger over their work, and must constantly be urged on. But it is striking to see how they increase in eagerness and vigour when they hit upon any indications of actual remains. And even the new hands very soon learn how to regulate their work with caution when there is any danger of destroying some fragile article. The pick of an experienced digger is almost as sensitive as his hand, and he appears to arrest the stroke midway when it meets with some strange body. When once it appears that such an object is near, knives and small picks and hands are used with great caution, and here the excavator himself, if not driven by eager curiosity, will be urged by caution to try his own hand at bringing to light any such object. In the excavation of graves but a few men can be employed at any one time. After the actual grave has been reached a small pick for the hard earth is used, while a pliable knife and one's own hands serve gradually to clear away the earth which surrounds the vases, statuettes, and articles of adornment which are here to be found. These objects are generally placed at the head and foot of the body; and thus one begins by clearing away the earth in the middle of the coffin itself, and then crouching carefully in this clear spot proceeds to work forward and backward. In the excavation of these tombs the old and simple system will still have to be retained, but in larger excavations there must be introduced improvements which will certainly economise much labour. The wheel-barrow has for some time taken the place of the baskets, though it is curious to see how at first the labourers are unable to use this simple apparatus. They will begin by carrying it three or four men together, and then three men will endeavour to wheel it along the ground without raising it at all, but they of course can soon be taught how to use it. In his last season's work, Dr. Schliemann used a small tramway with carts, and I have no doubt that some of the processes used in mining undertakings, perhaps even the use of water power, might, with great profit, be applied to such larger excavations as the one about to be undertaken at Delphi."

SOCIETY.

A marriage will shortly take place between Francis Henry Greville, youngest son of the late Rev. Thomas Henry Knight, of Broadhayes, Honiton, and Constance Lucy, only child of the late William Henry Dorrien-Magens.

Also between Mr. Sydney Robert White, second son of the late Mr. Robert White, of Madeira, and Miss Anna Martini, daughter of Mr. Henry Martini, of Bothwell, N.B.

Also between Captain Edmund T. C. Bower, Oxfordshire Light Infantry, Assistant Inspector of Signalling, eldest son of Mr. E. C. Bower, of Broxholme, Scarborough, and Elizabeth W. M., only daughter of the late General Sir Charles Trollope, K.C.B., and of Lady Trollope, of 21, Grosvenor-square.

Also between Charles Leslie Fox, eldest son of Mr. C. H. Fox, of Shute Leigh, Wellington, Somerset, and Lilian, younger daughter of the late Mr. Gurney Pease, of Darlington.

Also between Miss Helen Greenish, youngest daughter of Mr. John Greenish, The Knoll, Croydon, and Mr. Cyril R. Preston Gardner, youngest son of Lieutenant-Colonel T. Gardner, and grandson of the late Mr. R. C. Gardner, J.P., and Mr. William Preston, J.P. and D.L.

Also between William Bellasis, third son of the late Mr. Serjeant Bellasis, and Marie S. Dalglish, widow of the late Mr. C. Dalglish, and eldest daughter of the late Marquis de Guerry de Lauret.

Also between Captain Horace Beauchamp, 20th Hussars, third son of the late Sir Thomas Beauchamp, Bart., and Florence, only daughter of Mrs. Henry Leavitt, of Burton Hall, Christchurch.

Also between Mr. James Farquharson Remnant, eldest son of the late Mr. F. W. Remnant, of Southwold House, Suffolk, and 24, Lancaster-gate, and Frances Emily, daughter of Mr. Robert Gosling, of Hassobury, Essex, and 28, Portland-place.

Also between the Earl of Annesley and Miss Priscilla Cecilia Annesley, daughter of the late William Armytage Moore and Mrs. Armytage Moore, of Armmore, Cavan, and niece of the late Dowager Countess of Annesley.

Also between the Rev. George Trundle, minor canon of York Minster, and Amy, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Laybourne, of Cardiff.

The marriage of Mr. Robert Richardson Gardner and Miss Rosa Lilian Bernard will, it is understood, take place on the 25th inst. at Windsor, which Royal town Mr. Richardson Gardner represented in Parliament for many years.

The marriage of Major the Hon. J. T. St. Aubyn and Lady Edith Edgcumbe is fixed to take place at the Guards' Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on the 23rd inst.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur Robinson, youngest son of Mr. Robinson of Brettanby Manor, Darlington, and Miss Myra Beatrice Lavie, daughter of Mr. Germain Lavie, of 32, Queen Anne's-gate, is to take place at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the 12th July.

The marriage of Mr. Montague Ellis and Jessy Pearce, youngest daughter of Dr. Gibbon, will take place at St. James's Church, Sussex-gardens, on July the 9th, at two o'clock.

The marriage arranged between Mr. R. F. Hayward and Miss Alfreda Toulmin will take place at the parish church, Hatfield Peverel, early in August.

The marriage arranged between the Baron Alexandre de Stoeckl and Miss Agnes Barron, will take place on the 30th inst. at St. Mary's, Cadogan-street, Chelsea.

A large and distinguished congregation were present at St. George's, Hanover-square, on Saturday afternoon to witness the wedding of the Earl of Huntington and Miss Maud Margaret Wilson, second daughter of Sir Samuel Wilson, M.P. for Portsmouth. The church was decorated with tall palms and with blooming plants. The service was fully choral. Canon Blagden, vicar of Hughenden, officiated, assisted by the Rev. David Anderson, rector of St. George's. The bride was given away by her father. The Hon. Osmond W. J. W. Hastings, a brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The bridal dress was of white duchesse satin, with full Court train, trimmed with fine old point de gaze, the bodice, in Empire style, being trimmed with pearl passementerie and exquisite lace. Her tulle veil covered a chaplet of orange blossoms, fastened with a massive diamond star, the gift of Lady Wilson, her other ornament being a pearl pendant, the gift of the bridegroom. There were four bridesmaids—Miss Wilson and Miss May Wilson, sisters of the bride, and Lady Ileene Frances Cairns Hastings and Lady Irene Louisa Arundel Hastings, sisters of the bridegroom—who wore ivory satin plain skirts, with very long trains and bodices, with old-fashioned vichu of Venetian point lace, and hats to match. The bridegroom's presents to them were a true lover's turquoise brooch, with pearl pendant, surmounted by an Earl's coronet, studded with pearls, and shower nosegay of white blooms. The reception given by Lady Wilson at 10, Grosvenor-square, was very largely attended, and early in the afternoon the Earl and Countess of Huntingdon left for Clumber, the seat of the Duke of Newcastle, the travelling-dress being of turquoise merveilleux shot with pale cream, trimmed with blue, and hat *en suite*. The presents numbered 400.

The marriage of Miss M'Gregor, daughter of Lady Helen M'Gregor, and the late Sir Malcolm M'Gregor of M'Gregor, to the Hon. Granville Somerset, brother of Lord Raglan, was solemnised last Saturday afternoon at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbride. The church was tastefully decorated with flowers and palms, and the service was fully choral, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. George Mumm, vicar of Madresfield, assisted by the Rev. H. Montagu Villiers, rector of St. Paul's. Among the invited guests were the Duke of Beaufort, the Duchess of Athole, and the Ladies Murray. The bride, who was given away by her mother, wore a costume of white corded silk, with long Court train and bodice of white duchesse satin, edged with white ostrich feather trimming, and draped with Brussels lace; her bridal veil was of Brussels lace, fastened to the hair with diamond ornaments and surmounted by a spray of natural orange blossom. The six bridesmaids were—Miss Margaret M'Gregor and Miss Maryel M'Gregor, sisters of the bride; the Hon. Violet Somerset, sister of the bridegroom; the Hon. Mabel Murray, Miss Joan Thynne and Lady Mary Lygon. They were dressed alike in Bengaline, with broad sashes of Somerset blue-watered silk, with Legorn straw hats trimmed with blue. The bridegroom's presents to them were turquoise and diamond spray brooches. Captain the Hon. A. Somerset attended the bridegroom as best man.

The marriage of Captain Cecil Sydney de Butts Martindale (Punjaub Commission), second son of Colonel R. H. Martindale, C.B., of Overfield, Bickley, with Constance Mary Charlesworth, youngest daughter of F. Charlesworth, Esq., of Easthill, Bickley, was solemnised on the 1st inst. in St. George's Church, Bickley. The bride was attired in ivory satin, trimmed with Brussels lace and real orange blossom, and Court train of ivory moiré. The five bridesmaids wore dresses of white crépon, trimmed with salmon-pink silk and lace; high crowned white hats, trimmed with white feathers and pink ribbons. The officiating clergy were the vicar, Rev. Mr. Wood, Rev. Huddleston, and Rev. T. E. B. Guy, brother-in-law of the bride. There was a large gathering of relations and friends at the church, who were afterwards received at Easthill by Mr. and Mrs. Charlesworth. The bride's travelling-dress was mouse-coloured material, white satin pelerine, edged with black jet, and trimmed with blue silk and chiffon.

The marriage of Mr. Edward Lloyd Edwards, son of Mr. James Edwards, of Trevor Hall, Llangollen, High Sheriff and D.L. of Denbighshire, with Miss Tottenham, daughter of Capt. Tottenham, of Lofthouse, Cockington, was celebrated at the parish church, Cockington, Torquay, on the 1st inst. The officiating clergy were the Rev. G. H. Ley, vicar of Chagford, and the Rev. T. S. Rundle, vicar of Cockington. The bride wore a gown of ivory satin Duchesse, made *en Princesse*, and trimmed with old Mechlin lace, intermixed with orange blossoms and heather arranged in epaulette fashion on the shoulders, and falling in cascades down the front of the skirt; a long train draped with lace was brought from each shoulder, and the costume was completed by a Honiton veil. The seven bridesmaids were dressed alike in Empire gowns of ivory crépon, with a silk ruche round the hem of the skirt, while the full-drawn bodices had a sash of soft silk encircling the waist.

The marriage of Mr. Alfred Henry Dashwood, son of the late Rev. Samuel Vere Dashwood, of Stanford Park, Nottingham, with Miss Evelyn Maydwell Holdich, only daughter of the Rev. John Henry Holdich, rector of Bulwick, Northants, was solemnised at St. Mary Abbott's Church, Kensington. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Robert Lewes Dashwood, rector of Sherfield, Hants, assisted by the Rev. Chetwode S. Ram. The bride wore a gown of white crépon, trimmed with lace and silver, with large white hat trimmed with ostrich feathers, lace, and silver, and carried a magnificent bouquet of white roses, lilies of the valley, gardenias, and orange blossoms. The bridesmaid wore a gown of fawn and blue tweed, with a waistcoat of blue silk edged with fawn feather trimming, white straw hat trimmed with blue and white feathers, and carried a bouquet of red roses and lilies of the valley, and wore a gold and pearl pin. In the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left for Eastbourne for the honeymoon. The bride's travelling-dress was a tailor-made skirt and jacket of fawn-coloured tweed, with a pale pink skirt, and wore a black hat trimmed with pink roses.

The marriage of Albert Stanley McCausland, Esq., M.D., of Swanage, Dorset, son of the late Rev. R. McCausland, of Gloucester-place, Hyde-park, to Miss Emily Blunt Helsham, only daughter of Gustavus Helsham, Esq., J.P., the squire of Wiggenhall, St. Mary the Virgin, Norfolk, was solemnised on the 1st inst. The bride wore a Princesse dress of rich white duchesse satin, trimmed with ostrich feathers, with full Court train of extremely handsome silver and white brocaded satin, fastened with straps over the shoulders. Her tulle veil and wreath of real orange blossom were fastened by diamond sprays, and her large and handsome bouquet was composed of lilies of the valley, tuberoses, and white roses, tied with white satin ribbon bows and streamers. The bridesmaids wore dresses of ivory-white crêpon, made Princesse style, with Watteau pleats at the back, square yoke of deep yellow silk drawn into the neck with full gathered frills; sleeves of satin to elbow, with puffs of crêpon; Watteau sash for shoulders, and large picture hats trimmed with yellow and white ribbon. Each had a gold brooch set with pearls, bearing the date 1892, the gift of the bridegroom; and their bouquets consisted of yellow marg[illegible]ites tied with yellow and white ribbon. The officiating clergy were the Rev. R. McCausland, rector of Hawksker, Whitby, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. F. Jackson (Rural Dean), rector of West Lynn, and the Rev. H. J. Halls, vicar of St. Mary's, and the service was fully choral. After the service, Mr. Helsham entertained his friends at the hall. At five o'clock the newly-married couple drove to the Magdalen-road station of the Great Eastern Railway, by which they proceeded to London *en route* for the Continent. The bride's travelling-costume was of tailor-made light dove cloth, full waistcoat of old brocade, and cloak of pale grey cashmere lined with pink silk; her hat was of fine straw, edged with salmon pink velvet, and trimmed with grey ribbon and ostrich feather.

The marriage of Mr. Frederic Fitzjames Cullinan, of the Finance Department, Dublin Castle, to Miss Elizabeth Frances Maud Kaye, younger daughter of Sir William S. B. Kaye, Assistant Under-Secretary for Ireland, took place in the Chapel Royal, on the 1st inst. The bride was attired in white duchesse satin, the bodice being trimmed with chiffon and orange blossoms, and a belt of handsome pearl embroidery. The Court train fell from the shoulders, and a wreath of orange blossoms was covered by a tulle veil, fastened by diamond ornaments, which, with a diamond star brooch and pendant, pearl necklace, and a bouquet of orchids, were the gifts of the bridegroom. The bride was followed by her nephew, as page, and four bridesmaids, the former carrying her train. The bridesmaids wore dresses of ivory crépon, with yokes of yellow silk, covered with guipure lace; elbow sleeves of the same, and Empire sashes of silk fastened at the side, the skirts being trimmed at the hem with a ruche of chiffon. Each carried a shower bouquet of Maréchal Niel roses, tied with yellow ribbons, the gift of the bridegroom. Lady Kaye wore a dress of grenat Lyons velvet, handsomely trimmed with black Spanish lace, and bonnet to correspond. Mrs. North Bomford (sister of the bride) was in biscuit-coloured crépon, trimmed with guipure lace and Bengaline; hat to match. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Canon Wynne, assisted by the Very Rev. H. H. Dickinson, D.D., Dean of the Chapel Royal, and the Rev. J. C. Irwin, of St. James's. A reception was afterwards held by the bride's parents at their residence in Fitzwilliam-square, and later in the afternoon the newly-married pair left for Kingstown, *en route* to Switzerland. The bride travelled in a costume of pearl-grey corduroy cloth, trimmed with Oriental embroidery, and hat to correspond.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Benson entertained at dinner on Wednesday last the Stewards of the recent Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. the dinner being preceded by the customary service in the chapel of the Palace. The stewards present included the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, the Bishops of Llandaff and Barrow-in-Furness, Alderman Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart., Sir Charles E. G. Philipps, Bart., the Dean of Wells, Archdeacon Williams (of St. Asaph), Alderman Lieut.-Colonel Horatio Davies, Messrs. John F. Beazley, Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Gilbert W. Child, Master of the Cloth-workers' Company, Edward Coventry, Master of the Salters' Company, the Rev. Canon Charles D. Bell, David Anderson, Henry W. Moss, Alfred Povah, D.D., Edward Samson, Canon G. Corby White, L. Borrett White, D.D., and J. Beck Wickes; Messrs. J. D. Allcroft, W. D. Cronin, Lewis T. Dibdin, Horace B. Marshall, Horace B. Marshall, junr., Benjamin Newbatt, H. Rokeby Price, and Colonel Wilkinson. Among the other guests were the Bishops of Wakefield, Rochester, and St. Albans, Lord Thring, Rt. Hon. Sir George Bowen, G.C.M.G., Rev. Sir E. Graham Moon, Bart., Sir John Hanham, Bart., Sir Paget Bowman, Bart., Sir Henry Longley, K.C.B., Sir William J. Farrer, Sir John Hassard, the Hon. Hardinge F. Giffard, the Dean of Rochester, Canon Elevyn (Master of the Charterhouse), Canon Jacob, Canon Browne, Canon Benham, Professor Knowling, the Revs. R. M. Blakiston, H. France Hayhurst, and L. J. White-Thomson, Messrs John G. Talbot, M.P., T. H. Tristam, D.C.L., Q.C., J. Pearson, R.A., E. Lonsdale Beckwith, Ewan Christian, A. de Bock Porter, Orfeur J. Kiltington, F. H. Lee, M. B. Phillips, and Frederick A. White.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur T. Nicholson, B.A.-son of Mr. T. Nicholson, F.R.I.B.A., of St. Peter's, square, Hereford, with Caroline Dora, eldest daughter of the Rev. Sholto Middleton, M.A., of Albyns, Barnstaple, was celebrated on the 1st inst., at St. Mary Magdalene, Barnstaple, North Devon. The bride wore a dress of ivory faille, the long train being edged with a narrow

ruche of the silk; the sleeves and collar were made of lace, and she wore a tulle veil over a wreath of orange blossoms. Her ornaments were a gold padlock bracelet and gold brooches, the gifts of the bridegroom, as was also her beautiful bouquet of choice exotics. The bridesmaids wore costumes of cream-coloured serge, trimmed with moss-green velvet, salmon-pink sashes, and large cream chip hats, ornamented with pink roses and green velvet. Each carried a shower bouquet of pink roses, and wore a gold bangle, the gifts of the bridegroom. Mrs. Middleton, mother of the bride, was attired in dark green silk, trimmed with brocade, and bonnet to harmonise, and she carried a bouquet of Maréchal Niel roses. Mrs. Nicholson, mother of the bridegroom, wore brown velvet and fawn brocade, bonnet to match, and carried a bouquet of crimson roses. The Rev. Sholto Middleton, father of the bride, performed the nuptial rite, assisted by the Rev. A. L. Rivett, the vicar. A reception was afterwards held by the bride's parents at the Assembly Rooms, and, in the course of the afternoon, the bride and bridegroom left for Staines. The bride went away in a moss-green cloth costume, made with a pink silk waistcoat, with which she wore a large black chip hat, ornamented with roses and bows of green and pink ribbon.

Mrs. Leopold Seymour gave a dance at her residence in Cavendish-square on the 2nd inst. The ballroom was tastefully adorned with double scarlet geraniums, which threw up admirably the white and gold decorations. The fireplaces were filled with lilies, daisies, palms, ferns, and variegated acer, and the verandahs, which were covered in, were similarly beautified. Liddell's band performed the dance music. The hostess was attired in silver-grey satin, trimmed with black and white Chantilly and Brussels lace, and wore a diamond bandeau in her hair, pearl necklace with large diamond pendant, and diamond bracelets. Miss Seymour was in cream Bengaline, the skirt being edged with frills of chiffon, the Empire bodice with satin sash was slightly trimmed with embroidered chiffon, and a cluster of the palest pink carnations was fastened in the front, her only ornament was a pearl necklace and diamond pendant; Miss Maud Seymour wore white satin prettily trimmed with lace, and ostrich tips, and a Watteau bow at the back; Viscountess Halifax, black satin and jet, diamond tiara and ornaments; Hon. Miss Wood, white satin and lace, and pale blue velvet becomingly arranged in the hair; Miss Dundas, white satin, the skirt edged with a narrow ruche, and the bodice made Empire fashion with large puffed sleeves trimmed with pearl embroidery; the Countess of Lindsey, black silk and jet, with jewels of emeralds and diamonds; Lady Evelyn Bertie, white satin edged with silver passementerie, old lace on bodice, and a pearl necklace; Viscountess Wolseley, black satin with pale grey panels, and diamond ornaments; the Hon. Frances Wolseley, palest grey satin brocaded with small pink flowers, pink chiffon sleeves, and narrow pale green ribbons ranged round the waist, and falling in long ends at the back; Lady Lilian Yorke, striped heliotrope brocade trimmed with green velvet, and diamond ornaments; Lady Selina Hervey, rich black brocade ornamented with jet, a large diamond crescent fastened in the front, and a diamond tiara; Lady Morris, green plush, plentifully trimmed with Honiton lace, and diamond ornaments; Miss Morris was in pale pink; Lady Lilian Liddell, a plain white satin Empire dress; Lady Wellesley, pale pink brocade, with lace epaulettes; Miss Wellesley, simple white satin dress trimmed with lace spotted with silver spangles; the Hon. Mrs. Halford, black and grey brocade trimmed with jet, and diamond ornaments. Miss Halford's grey dress was brocaded in a design of Prince of Wales's plumes, and the bodice was trimmed with silver-spangled lace. Lady Delamere wore brown Bengaline and velvet, and a diamond tiara; the Hon. Mrs. Richard Moreton, gold tinsel brocade and gold trimmings, pearl and diamond ornaments; and Mrs. Charrington, a pretty dress of pale blue brocade with a Watteau pleat, and trimmed with handsome pearl embroidery, deep frills of antique lace edging the puffed sleeves, pearl and diamond necklace, and stars in the hair.

Mrs. Bischoffsheim gave a most successful evening party on the 31st ult., at Bute House, South Audley-street. The large number of guests assembled in the beautiful reception-rooms on the ground floor, all of which open on to a conservatory. This was artistically arranged with scarlet and Oriental draperies; inviting seats were placed beneath large palms, and dotted about at various angles; trailing plants hid the pillars, and the Blue Hungarian band discoursed sweet music at one end of this pleasant retreat, which was illuminated by shaded pink lights. Beyond this, a large temporary room was erected in the garden, which served as a supper-room. This was reached by a double staircase from the conservatory; the ceiling was hidden by alternate broad stripes of scarlet and white, and from it were suspended electric lamps. The long supper-table was decorated with large pink roses. The hostess, who was dressed in maize-coloured brocade, slightly trimmed with black velvet, received her guests at the entrance of the centre drawing-room. Among the numerous distinguished people present were the Spanish Ambassador, the Italian Ambassador and Countess Tornielli, Prince and Princess Henry of Pless, Sir George and Lady Dallas, Colonel and Mrs. Howard Vincent, and many others.

Mrs. Charrington gave a ball at 25, Grosvenor-square, on the 30th ult. The staircase was converted into brilliant arbours of trellis-work, covered with climbers and pelargoniums, and ending in fairy-like tents of yellow silk, gay with pink and yellow blossoms. The ballrooms had a fine parquet floor, specially laid for the occasion, and were decorated in yellow and white with splendid effect. The youthful hostess wore an Empire gown of pale blue brocade, with a girdle of pearls, and was literally covered with diamonds. Princess Henry of Pless was conspicuous in a graceful gown of soft silk, falling from the shoulders at the back and richly trimmed with point de Venise. Lady Henry Fitzgerald looked well in a gown of blue and black. Miss Capel Cure in strawberry colour and Miss Muriel Wilson in white. Lady Crossley looked well in white. Among others were present the Duchess of Leeds, Lady Londesborough, Mrs. Murray of Polmaise, Lady Borthwick, Lady Wolseley, Lady Conyers, &c.

The marriage of Mr. H. R. Parker, eldest son of the late Mr. Henry Parker, of Lower Condercum, Northumberland, and Mrs. Parker, of The Park, Royston, with Miss C. E. Gordon Besley, eldest daughter and Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Besley, of Queen's-gardens, and grand-daughter of the late Lord Cecil Gordon, took place at Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, on the 1st inst. The bride wore a petticoat of white satin Duchesse, festooned with real lace, caught up with orange blossom, and train from the shoulder of rich brocade. She wore a diamond and sapphire brooch, and carried a bouquet of white flowers, the gifts of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were dressed in pink crépon, trimmed with mother-of-pearl moiré and cream lace with hats to match with shaded pink feathers. They wore pearl "merry-thought" brooches, and carried bouquets of pink roses, both given to them by the bridegroom. The Rev. C. Ridgway, vicar of Christ Church, officiated, assisted by the Rev. G. Ware and the Rev. A. Byron. The bridal party afterwards re-assembled at the residence of the bride's parents in Queen's-gardens, and later in the day the newly-wedded couple started on their way to Switzerland, where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's travelling-dress was of peach-coloured cloth embroidered with feathers, with cape of coffee lace, and large hat trimmed with feathers to match.

The marriage of Mr. Frederick W. Forbes Ross, M.B., C.M.E., eldest son of David Palmer Ross, M.D.C.M.G., Sierre Leone, to Florence Marion, third daughter of Brigadier-Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Hooper, Lucknow, India, took place on the 27th ult., at Christ Church, Morningside, Edinburgh. The Rev. C. M. Black, M.A., officiated. The service was conducted by Mr. R. de Drury-Keenry. The bride wore a Princess gown of white serge silk with short under train, trimmed at foot with twisted silk and monkshood cord, front of bodice trimmed with white chiffon, sleeves of plain serge silk, draped puffs and bretelles of brocade lined with serge silk, square corset train (Watteau), of handsome brocade from the shoulders; long tulle veil, covering a wreath of orange blossom, was fastened by a diamond crescent, the gift of Mr. Fred. Ross, of Penang, and a diamond butterfly, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. Quinn. Her other ornaments were diamond and pearl bracelets, the gift of the bridegroom. Her train was carried by Master Robertson, son of Mr. R. A. Robertson, whose costume was Louis XIV. style, in grey plush, with pink silk waistcoat and stockings, with black buckled shoes, three-cornered grey hat with ostrich feathers. The four bridesmaids wore costumes of grey corduroy cloth, trimmed with gold and primrose brocade; plain umbrella skirts with long trains, trimmed round the foot with ruching; pointed bodices with long basques at the backs, plastrons and cuffs of gold brocade, curled collar lined with brocade; hats of grey tulle and fancy lace straw with grey ostrich feathers; gold curb chain bracelets, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride carried a shower bouquet of white flowers, and the bridesmaids carried bouquets of pink and white roses, the gift of Captain Wallace. After the ceremony Mrs. W. Roe Hooper held a reception at her residence, and at four o'clock Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Forbes Ross left for the south. The bride's travelling costume was of grey French diagonal striped cloth, plain umbrella skirt, double-breasted bodice; grey hat with ostrich feathers; travelling cloak of brown vicuna cloth, handsomely embroidered in gold and black.

The marriage of Mr. J. A. Scott, youngest son of the late Mr. Archibald Scott, to Miss Jacqueline Walkenshaw Crawford, youngest daughter of the late Mr. D. B. Crawford, took place on the 2nd inst. at St. John's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, the Rev. G. T. Cowley-Browne, rector, officiating, assisted by the Rev. H. C. B. Cunnyhame, of St. Mary's Cathedral. The bride wore a dress of rich corded silk, the bodice being trimmed with Irish lace and ostrich tips. She wore a long tulle veil, fastened with a diamond and sapphire brooch, and a diamond crescent, the latter, along with the magnificent bouquet she carried, being the gift of the bridegroom. Her train was carried by Master John and Miss Nellie Scott, nephew and niece of the bridegroom. The two bridesmaids were dressed in pink crépon, trimmed with guipure lace and pale green ribbons; and wore large white hats to match. They carried bouquets of roses, and wore pearl and diamond brooches, both the gift of the bridegroom. Master John Scott wore full Highland costume, and his sister a white silk Liberty frock and Leghorn hat. After the ceremony a reception was held by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sutherland at 43, Melville-street, and later in the afternoon the newly-married couple left for London, *en route* for the Continent. The bride's travelling-dress was a tailor-made costume, handsomely braided, and black hat with yellow roses.

The marriage of Mr. A. Pole Welman, Army Service Corps, late 27th Inniskillings, son of Colonel H. W. P. Welman, late Royal Scots, with Miss Fanny Dinnis, daughter of Paymaster-in-Chief T. R. Dinnis, R.N., was solemnised at St. Jude's Church, Southsea, on the 1st inst. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. E. C. Corfe, assisted by the Rev. J. S. Blake, vicar of St. Jude's, Southsea. The bride wore a lovely gown of white duchesse satin, with Court train of Pekin moiré antique, the Watteau pleat fastened with pearl ornaments, the bodice trimmed with chiffon and silver embroidery; she wore a coronet of blossoms and tulle veil fastened with pearl pins, and carried a shower bouquet of white flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. After the ceremony the guests adjourned to Linden Lodge, the residence of the bride's father, where Mrs. Dinnis held a reception. Later in the afternoon the newly-married couple started for the Isle of Wight.

CHIT CHAT.

A Rome correspondent says that a colossal project, already approved by many cardinals and high personages, has been submitted to the judgment of the Pope. It is no less than to build on Mount Janicolo a monumental church, with a cupola like that of St. Peter's, and all around it grand edifices for all the Roman Catholic Universities in the world. It is to be a colossal international building, which will cost 100,000,000 francs, the money to be collected all over the world by means of subscriptions, headed by the names of all Catholic sovereigns.

There are not a great many Churchmen who know that in the interior of Patagonia, far up the Chubut, there is a little colony of Welsh Churchmen, who have been for some time building themselves a little church, which, according to the last intelligence from them, was at the point of completion, and which, it was hoped, would be opened by Bishop Stirling, of the Falkland Islands. The little structure is of brick, and sufficiently large to accommodate about a hundred worshippers. Its bell is the ancient bell of St. Rhedyw, Llanllyfin, which will, in this isolated corner of the world, ring out the call to the faithful few, as in days gone by it pealed through the valley and over the mountains of the land of their birth, bidding their forefathers to the worship of God.

Professor Barnard, of San Francisco, reports that the new comet has a complicated system of tails. As many as half a dozen distinct branches can be counted proceeding from the head, some of which are curiously curved. Telescopic photographs show that in less than twenty-four hours the third tail had extended to a length of 10,000,000 miles, while the northern tail had completely vanished. Portions of the tail were seen to make abrupt angles with their original source.

Since the Darwinian theory of the origin of man made its first victorious mark, twenty years ago, we have sought (says Professor Virchow) for the intermediate stages which were supposed to connect man with the apes; the proto man, the *pro anthropos*, is not yet discovered. For anthropological science the *pro anthropos* is even a subject of discussion. At that time in Innspruck the prospect was, apparently, that the course of descent from ape to man would be reconstructed all at once; but now we cannot even prove the descent of the separate races from one another. At this moment we are able to say that among the peoples of antiquity no single one was any nearer to the apes than we are. At this moment I can affirm that there is not upon earth any absolutely unknown race of men. The least known of all are the people of the central mountainous district of the Malay Peninsula, but otherwise we know the people of Tierra del Fuego quite as well as the Esquimaux, Bashkirs, Polynesians, and Lapps. Nay, we know more of many of these than we do of certain European tribes; I need only mention the Albanians. Every living race is still human; no single one has yet been found that we can designate as simian or quasi-simian. Even when in certain ones phenomena appear which are characteristic of the apes—*e.g.*, the peculiar ape-like projections of the skull in certain races—still, we cannot say that these men are ape-like.

Bedgebury Park, the seat of the late Right Hon. A. J. Beresford-Hope, M.P., was last week submitted for sale in London, but the highest bid did not exceed £145,000, and the auctioneer, on behalf of the vendor, named £200,000, and withdrew the property at that figure.

The Convocation of Canterbury on Tuesday promulgated, under the Queen's license, the new canon, whereby a beneficed priest, proved to have been guilty of crime or immorality, and legally disqualified from holding a preferment, shall have his benefice declared vacant either by the Bishop, Archbishop, or under the authority of the Archbishop.

A scheme for the complete restoration of Bristol Cathedral has been formally adopted. It involves an estimated outlay of £18,400, and includes restoring the tower, Lady chapel, Bishop's throne, reredos, rood screen, side screens, altar, altar rails, floor, and steps, alteration and adaptation of stalls and lighting, and a new organ.

Over £850 has been subscribed in the diocese of Norwich for the erection of a new episcopal throne for the Bishop in Norwich Cathedral. The Prince of Wales is among the contributors.

Dublin University is going to confer the degree of Doctor of Letters on Mr. Henry Irving.

Dr. Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts, and the most eloquent and scholarly preacher in the American Protestant Church, is expected in London, where he will be the guest of Archdeacon Farrar. He will preach at Westminster Abbey, and, it is to be hoped, at St. Paul's.

Next month Academic Dublin will be holding high festival, since it will be commemorating with justifiable pride, pomp, and circumstance the Tercentenary of Trinity college.

No fewer than six sons of the late Lord Napier of Magdala have joined the Army; and other two, who are younger, are destined for the same career. The ninth son—who recently received the Queen's India cadetship—has been appointed to the Rifle Brigade.

The Royal Insurance Company, which claims to have the largest fire insurance business in the world, has issued its statement of accounts for the year 1891, from which we gather that the net fire premiums are £1,607,030, the losses £900,215, and the balance (including £30,913 interest) transferred to profit and loss £111,315. In the life department the new business is £760,759, the total premiums, after deducting reassurances, £329,855, and the life funds at the end of the year £4,546,576. The funds of the company show an increase of £1,547,325 over the previous year, and the total assets on December 31 last, amounted to £8,486,435. At the annual meeting of the company to be held next week a dividend of 23s. per share will be recommended, making, with the 12s. paid in January, 35s. for the year. It may be mentioned that these figures include the business of the Queen Insurance Company for the second half of 1891 only.

Dr. Henry Schlighter contributes a valuable epitome of our knowledge of the pygmies of Africa to the June number of the *Scottish Geographical Magazine*. He divides the dwarf tribes hitherto reported into four great groups, according to the regions they inhabit, recognising, however, the probability of further exploration revealing connecting links between them. The first group, or dwarfs of West Africa, includes the Obongo, Akoa, and Babongo, which vary between 4ft. and 5ft. in height. The second, or Central African group, contains the Akka, Wambutti, and Batua, of even smaller stature, inhabiting the Congo Basin, scattered amongst Bantu tribes. The third group is that of the East African pygmies, whose existence east of the Nile and south of Kaffa was reported as early as 1836; but they are still little known. The fourth group, those dwelling south of the Congo basin, is relegated to another paper.

The work of measuring the velocity of stars in the line of sight has been carried out at the Potsdam Observatory since 1887. The spectrum of each star is photographed simultaneously with a comparison spectrum furnished by a Geissler tube, and measurement of the displacement of lines in the stellar spectrum is made with the aid of a microscope provided with a sliding apparatus moved by a micrometer screw. In this way the variation of wave-length is made to indicate the motion of the star with such accuracy that the probable error is estimated to be less than an English mile per second in the observations now completed. The mean motion in the line of sight of forty-seven stars—measurements for which will soon be published—is 10·6 miles per second, six stars having a velocity less than two miles, five greater than twenty miles, and one about thirty-six miles. Of these stars fifteen move away from the earth and thirty-two toward it.

The general idea appears to be that the Pope's golden rose is an article for personal adornment. As a matter of fact the rose, with its buds, leaves, and branches is placed in a superbly-chased vase of silver-gilt, and the whole affair stands about 3ft. in height.

In the Colleges of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen, 92 per cent. of the students are total abstainers, and 91 per cent. of those in the Normal Colleges.

The deaf mutes of Germany have just been holding a congress. The strange scene was witnessed of an animated discussion in silence. One of the "speakers" deftly rapped out on his fingers the astounding announcement—said to be a fact—that of the bread-winners in Germany there are no fewer than 90,000 who cannot speak a word. There were almost as many suggestions for the social advancement of these poor people as could have been put forth at a convention of eloquent men. One mute thought there should be amongst them technical schools for deaf people, such as are now in America. This was the most practical hint of any given at the congress, and seemed to find general favour amongst the silent debaters.

During a residence of two years in a tomb at Gizeh, Mr. Flinders Petrie has collected evidence showing that the tools used in working stone 4,000 years ago were made with the jewelled cutting-edges, as is the modern custom.

The ship in which Dr. Nansen is to make his venturous Polar expedition is described as 30 mètres long and 11 broad. The bow and stern are both pointed; the steering apparatus and the screw can be completely drawn into the body of the ship at will. The engine is of 160-horse power. The ship is built of Italian oak which has been stored up for more than thirty years. There will be an outer casing to resist the ice, so that the walls of the ship will be about three-quarters of a yard thick, besides many interior supports and strengthening of places most exposed to pressure. In case of its being necessary to forsake the ship, there are two boats large enough to carry the crew and provisions for several months.

The choir of St. Peter's, Rome, is composed of sixty boys. They are trained in the work from the time they get control of their vocal chords, and some of the best singers are not over nine years old. At the age of 17 they are dropped from the choir.

During the first five months of this year 13,870 aliens came to this country to stay, and 52,938 arrived, but recorded their purpose of crossing the Atlantic. These numbers show an augmentation of 2,241 in the former case, and 14,568 in the latter over the five months in the preceding year.

At a large gathering of Sheffield gentlemen, a few days ago, a good story was told. A former vicar of a country parish not far from Sheffield was a gentleman distinguished for his learning, and for the position he took at Cambridge. One day a visitor to the village got into conversation with one of the parishioners, and the talk turned to the vicar. "Your clergyman," said the visitor, "is a very able man. Why, he is a Wrangler." "I never heard that," was the reply of the villager, "but his missus is!"

The directors of Spiers and Pond, Limited, notify that the transfer books will be closed from the 20th to the 30th inst., both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants, on the 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debentures, the 5 per cent. "A" Mortgage Debenture Stock, and the 5 per cent. Debenture Stock of the Company. The warrants will be posted on the evening of the 30th inst.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co. will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation free of all charge.

"IT FEARS NEITHER ARMY NOR NAVY.

"Those things used to be called the wooden walls of England."

The scene was the Naval Exhibition at Chelsea, in the summer of 1891. The speaker was a young man, and his auditor one of those lithe bright-haired girls one so often sees in this island.

"And aren't they the wooden walls of England now?" she said, as a child might ask when Noah might be expected in Liverpool with his ark.

"Not exactly," replied her escort, tenderly; "they are rather out of style. Come; I'll show what sort of walls we have now," and he led her off in the direction of the beautiful models of the great steel ships of war.

The young fellow was right in assuming that this country had a big and powerful navy, but the chances of war decrease with the preparations made to meet it. Besides, the interests that would be put to hazard grow constantly larger, and nations avoid fighting as long as possible.

This is a hopeful consideration, and if England had nothing to be afraid of beyond the danger of being attacked from abroad we might sleep in peace. But there is an enemy against which neither army nor navy is of any avail. It defies the gunboats in the Channel and the redcoats on the shore, and kills more people than are ever likely to fall in battle.

If we could stop the ravages of this foe we should soon be able to surprise our distant colonies with the arrival among them of a splendid class of our surplus population.

We allude, of course, to disease. Not to epidemics of cholera or influenza, but to diseases which are at work year in and year out, in every season, carrying off rich and poor alike. Unquestionably the worst of these is the one that attacks the digestive system, the one from which springs the majority of ailments which go under various names, as, for example, rheumatism, gout, bronchitis, consumption, the several fevers, and others which were formerly, erroneously, supposed to have distinct characters, and to require distinct treatment.

Now, however, the best medical authorities recognise these ailments as symptoms and outgrowths of indigestion and dyspepsia, and treat them accordingly. In illustration of what can be done, we cite a single case. A man named Edward Kelly, who resides at 27, St. Vincent-street, London-road, Liverpool, having previously had perfect health, experienced a dull pain in the side, a bad taste in the mouth, furred tongue, loss of appetite, discoloured skin, unnatural languor and fatigue, and what he describes as a "sinking feeling," as though the supporting supp power were exhausted beneath him.

This was in 1887, and he bore it without obtaining relief from the usual medical treatment until April, when one day, when he was working in a bonded warehouse, he says, "a dreadful pain struck me in the back, and I had great trouble in getting through my work. Getting worse," he continues, "I went to a doctor, who said it was inflammation of the kidneys. He gave me medicine and attended me off and on for six months, but with no beneficial result. He said he could not understand how I could keep on with my work. Still, I did struggle on, though the disease was wearing me out. From a strong, able man, I became thin and weak, and was afraid I should have to give up my work. Last July, 1890, a Custom House officer recommended me to try an advertised preparation, entitled Mother Seigel's Syrup. I did so, and before I had finished the first bottle the pain left my back, and I began to digest my food and gain strength. By continuing to use this remedy, *I was soon as well as ever in my life.* My master, seeing what the Syrup had done for me, also took it for indigestion, with so much benefit that now he always keeps it by him. *I have no interest whatever in testifying thus, and only speak of the medicine as I found it.*

Mr. Kelly evidently had a narrow escape from Bright's disease, a malady very common among all classes in England, and one of the surest and most direct products of torpid liver, itself a symptom of indigestion and dyspepsia. We mention this case not to put money in anybody's pocket, but for the sake of the sufferers who need help—no matter what it comes from.

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MAPLE and CO. enjoy a world-wide celebrity for comfortable and substantially-made dining-room chairs, as well as for luxuriantly soft and really easy chairs, club chairs, lounges, and settees of their own manufacture. Customers when in Tottenham-court-road can pass from the showrooms to the factory and see the various processes of upholstering.

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FURNITURE

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MAPLE and Co.—The LYNDHURST SUITE consisting of a 6ft. wardrobe with plate-glass door, and centre fitted with convenient trays and drawers; double wash stand with marble top, high tiled back, and shelf beneath; toilet table, with large landscape glass jewelled and other drawers and brackets, a pedestal cupboard, towel airer, and three chairs, in ash or hazelwood, 18 guineas. Designs free.

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